

Serving the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

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Weather Forecast

FRI

High 83° Low 66°

SAT

High 80° Low 65°

SUN

High 86° Low 64°

In the Shadow of the Blade Huey flies again to honor veterans

Sgt. Raymond Piper
Editor

As the restored Huey came over the treetops Oct. 5 to land in Bruce McCartney's back yard as part of the documentary, "In the Shadow of the Blade," someone asked jokingly, "I wonder if the LZ is hot?"

The landing zone was only hot in the memory of the Vietnam veterans as the restored UH-1 "Iroquois," better known as the Huey, landed to honor the memories of the veterans and listen to their stories.

"This is a mission of healing. We're going out to communities like this one; we're stopping and talking to veterans to honor those who served. Making the documentary is a byproduct of this journey across America," said Rev. Bill McDonald, who served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967 as a crew chief and door gunner for the 128th Assault Helicopter Company and now ministers to fellow veterans.

A fellow dustoff medic and good friend of McCartney found the "In the Shadow of the Blade" website and shared it with him. Once he saw the website and found out that the helicopter would be landing at Hunter Army Airfield to refuel, he invited the crew to his house for a Low Country Boil and even offered to pick them up. In response to his request, they asked if they could land the helicopter in his backyard and asked him to invite veterans and friends to meet the crew.

"It's fitting they should stop here," said Jimmy Smith, chairman of the Liberty County Commission. "Fort Stewart was then a flight training center and many young men passed through Liberty County on their way to serve in the Vietnam War. The sight of a helicopter landing in fields and pastures was common in the 1960s and early 1970s."

Thirty-seven years ago, pilot Bob

See HUEY, Page 10A



Photos by Sgt. Raymond Piper

(Above) A restored UH-1 "Iroquois," better known as a Huey, lands in the back yard of Bruce McCartney.
(Right) Donald Singleton, a former Infantryman with the 101st Airborne Division from 1966-1968, remembers his last ride in a Huey during the Vietnam War.



AFAP tackles soldier, civilian quality of life issues

Early separation for civilian employment, retirement benefits key issues

Spc. Robin M. Tenney
Staff Writer

Members of the Army Family Action Plan held their annual conference Oct. 1 at Club Stewart to discuss issues affecting Fort Stewart's soldiers, family members and civilians.

Active and Reserve soldiers, retirees, Department of the Army civilians, family members and tenant organizations identified the two most important issues to maintaining a good standard of living – retirement benefits should be

determined by final base pay and early separation should be considered for civilian employment.

AFAP, which has been in existence for 17 years, was the brainchild of Army spouses. It is a process that lets soldiers and families offer their input on what is working and what is not and how they believe the problem can be addressed.

"AFAP ensures that an individual whether it be a soldier, family member or civilian has an opportunity to share his opinion at the lowest level," said Vickie Wiginton, AFAP program manager. "They address issues that the upper command may not know are problems."

"AFAP is a listening post for the command," said Col. Gerald J. Poltorak, garrison commander. "It allows the command to hear what is on community members minds and an opportunity to respond to those needs."

The Fort Stewart AFAP consists of eight work groups – family support, forces support, medical/dental/TRICARE, entitlement and benefits, education and youth (adults), education and youth (youths), retirement and employment.

Each group is tasked to come up with its two most important issues. All eight groups then brief the entire AFAP, which then votes on the two most important issues.

All of the issues are sent to the garrison commander for review. Those that cannot be handled at the local level are sent up the chain of command, previously Forces Command, now the Southeastern Region.

According to AFAP statistics, about 90% of AFAP issues are retained and worked at the local level. For example, one issue addressed

See AFAP, Page 14A

President details dangers from Iraq

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush Monday clearly answered the questions Americans have raised about the danger Saddam Hussein's Iraq poses to the world.

"The threat from Iraq stands alone because it gathers the most serious dangers of our age in one place," Bush said during a nationally broadcast speech in Cincinnati. "By its past and present actions, by its technological capabilities, by the merciless nature of the regime, Iraq is unique."

The president called Hussein "a homicidal dictator who is addicted to weapons of mass destruction." The danger is not just that Iraq may use weapons of mass destruction against its neighbors and the United States, but that it may give these weapons to terrorist groups.

Bush said the danger Iraq

"The threat from Iraq stands alone because it gathers the most serious dangers of our age in one place."

George W. Bush
President

poses will only get larger with time, and that it doesn't make sense to allow Hussein to perfect or build more arms before stopping him.

In 1995, the Iraqi regime admitted to stockpiling more than 30,000 liters of the biological weapon anthrax. "This is a massive stockpile of biological weapons that has never been accounted for and is capable of killing millions," Bush said.

Iraq also has chemical

agents and has used them on Iran during the Iran-Iraq War of 1980-88, and against its own people. Bush said that the attacks killed or injured more than 20,000 people.

The president said U.S. surveillance shows Iraq is rebuilding the plants used to make these chemical weapons. "Every chemical and biological weapon Iraq has or makes is a direct violation of the truce that ended the Persian Gulf War in 1991," he said.

He said Iraq has the means to deliver these weapons — missiles that can reach Saudi Arabia, Israel, NATO ally Turkey, and other nations. He said intelligence sources have revealed that Iraq possesses manned and unmanned aerial vehicles that can spray chemical and biological agents. "We're concerned that Iraq is exploring ways of using these UAVs for missions targeting

See IRAQ, Page 8A

Policy increases soldier tuition assistance

Michelle Bard
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Soldiers now have more money to pay for their education because of changes to the Department of Defense's tuition-assistance policy.

Beginning Oct. 1, the Army's Tuition Assistance program will pay up to the new cap of 250 per semester hour of credit and an annual ceiling of \$4,500 to soldiers enrolled in a post-secondary school. The policy also covers textbooks if they are included in the school's tuition rates.

Under the old policy, the tuition-assistance grant was up to 75 percent of tuition, capped at \$187.50 per semester hour and \$3,500 a year.

"This policy offers greater opportunities for those who want to continue their education," said Janice Yoo, Tuition Assistance program manager at the Total Army Personnel Command, Alexandria, Va.

See TUITION, Page 13A

1-3 Aviation puts 'steel on target' as aerial gunnery gets underway

Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp

Hunter Public Affairs Office

The 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) is flexing its muscles once again in the woods of Fort Stewart as the 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment puts its attack helicopters, pilots and crews through the paces during annual gunnery training Sept. 30-Oct. 18.

The battalion occupied Tactical Assembly Area Kodiak Sept. 30 in the same way that they would deploy in combat. Every element of the battalion, from the motor pool to the aid station, contributed to a successful deployment and a successful start of the aerial gunnery, said Maj. Randy Brown, executive officer, 1-3 Aviation.

"There are a lot of moving pieces involved; we are running almost 24-hour ops," said Brown.

While supporting elements take care of all the details required for operations, pilots and crews of the AH-64D Longbow Apache conduct pre-gunnery checks, rocket-pod bore sight checks and last-minute maintenance, making sure nothing will prevent them from achieving a passing score on the target engagement lanes.

"The end state of our mission here is to have 27 crews fully qualified, trained and ready," said Maj. David Rudy, operations and training officer, 1-3 Aviation.

The \$23-million AH-64D Apache Longbow is widely regarded as the world's best attack helicopter.

It has demonstrated the ability to identify more than 1,024 targets, classify the target array into categories, prioritize the most dangerous targets, digitally transmit the information to other aircraft, and initiate a precision attack - all in 30 seconds or less.

While the new AH-64D model shares the same airframe as its predecessor, the older AH-64A model, the similarities end there.

"The biggest difference is the Fire Control Radar," explained Chief Warrant Officer 4 Richard Handlon, A Co., 1-3 Aviation.

"We can track stationary targets as well as moving ones ... putting one missile every two seconds into 16 individual targets," he added.

Gunnery qualification is a multi-stage event broken down into tables. Table Five is conducted in the Longbow simulator located at Hunter Army Airfield and Table Six consists of zeroing the aircraft's weapon systems. Tables Seven and Eight are the actual engagement exercises conducted in the field.



Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp

An AH-64D Apache Longbow makes a landing during the beginning of 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment's annual gunnery. The regiment will be conducting training on Fort Stewart until Oct. 18.

The Longbow utilizes Hellfire missiles, rockets and the M230 Chain Gun automatic cannon in the gunnery.

"Everything we do out here fully prepares us," said Capt. R.J. Garcia, B Co., 1-3 Aviation.

"It's a good range and very challenging for the crews," added Handlon.

"An aerial weapons platform such as this is very important training. To actually put steel on target can't be replicated,"

said Lt. Col. Daniel E. Williams, battalion commander, 1-3 Aviation, after completing his qualification.

"So far we've been blessed with good weather and good scores," he added.

"We try and have all the commanders go through first. We then post their scores and give the other crews something to shoot for. It instills confidence and raises morale. You have to lead from the front," said Williams.



Photos by Spc. Scott Molina

An AH-64D Apache Longbow fires Hellfire missiles during 1/3 Avn. Regt.'s annual gunnery training from Sept. 30-Oct. 18.

FARP crew exemplifies 'total team concept'

1-3 Aviation refuelers combine with rearmament teams to deliver support



Photos by Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp

(Above and right) Members of the FARP crew provide fuel and armament to an AH-64D Apache Longbow. They have 30 minutes to refuel and rearm each helicopter.

Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp

Hunter Public Affairs Office

From out of the cerulean sky, four ominous, black silhouettes streak toward the ground in search of sustenance and energy.

Their approach is viewed with cautious anticipation. Every motion and move, however miniscule, is chronicled in the mind's eye of each crewman on the ground.

The overriding mission, to return these birds of prey to the fight as fast as possible, looms paramount in their thoughts.

The Forward Area Refueling Point, or FARP for short, is a critical operation in assuring the combat capabilities of the AH-64D Longbow are fully utilized.

The one-stop refuel and rearmament station employs both petroleum supply specialists and ammunition specialists who provide 24-hour support for the battalion's aircraft.

While the FARP has six points for aircraft, they maintain the capability of setting up an additional six-point system, or "ghost," at a separate location.

This facilitates their ability to support aircraft continuously while "jumping," or moving to another forward area, said Sgt. 1st Class Timothy O. Bell, armament NCOIC.

"The standard is 30 minutes (for complete

refuel and rearmament) but we've done it in 20 minutes or less before," Bell said.

When the aircraft land, they receive JP-8 fuel and are rearmed with Hellfire missiles, aerial rockets and M230 Chain Gun ammunition, simultaneously.

If the team does not have fuel, operations come to a halt, Bell emphasized.

Just as both missions are of equal importance, the soldiers who perform them are cross-trained in each other's jobs.

The refuelers can rearm the aircraft and the rearmament soldiers can pump gas.

This assures a continuity of mission and increases efficiency and shortens the time the Apaches have to sit on the ground.

The 3-5 platoon's soldiers (designated as such by the Army supply system labeling of fuel as class three and ammunition as class five) take great pride in a quick turnaround of the battalion's aircraft.

While speed is important, safety is the absolute number one priority, said Capt. Dan R. Ostrowski, 3-5 platoon leader.

As the birds ascend back into the sky, their tanks full and their weapon bays stocked, a sense of satisfaction can be observed in the eyes of the FARP crew.

Mission accomplished ... everyone accounted for ... good hunting.



ATC unit tests soldier proficiency during Apache gunnery



Photos by Akilah C. Clarke

(Above) Pfc. Armando Cervantes (with binoculars), Spc. Sean Bailey and Sgt. Terrence Davenport check the skies for approaching traffic during the 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment’s gunnery Friday.
(Right) A camouflaged tactical air traffic control tower provides guidance to the 1/3 Avn. Regt. during its live fire exercise.

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Hunter Public Affairs Office

The soldiers of D Company, 1st Battalion, 58th Aviation Regiment are adding another notch to their training belt by supporting the 1st Bn., 3rd Avn. Regiment’s Apache gunnery, scheduled to run from Sept. 30 to Oct. 18.

The air traffic control company, whose parent unit is based at Fort Bragg, N.C., is participating in the event in an effort to allow soldiers an opportunity to cross-train in their respective ATC positions while reinforcing basic soldier skills.

“We have three separate platoons out here training,” said 1st Lt. Kacey Ellerbrock, the company’s executive officer. “We’ve been in the field five times in the last five months. As a company we come to the field to get a chance to cross-train some of the soldiers that are in (ground control approach) and the tower.”

Due to its primary mission of providing air traffic control support services to the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), D Co. has trained with a number of units over the past few months, according to Ellerbrock.

“We’ve worked with all different units – we’ve been in the field with the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, we’ve been down to Fort Gordon, Ga. with the Aviation Brigade, we’ve done some stuff with 3rd Squadron, 7th Calvary, and we’ve also gone out with Marne Focus. And now we’re out here with 1-3,” she said.

Ellerbrock went on to explain the significance of the training event.

“We get to do a lot of soldier stuff – we were in (mission oriented protective posture) four this morning doing preventative maintenance checks and services and protecting fighting positions,” she said. “We get to take our equipment out, set it up, use it for an extended period of time and we can troubleshoot and make sure our equipment is ready for a wartime mission.”

Sgt. 1st Class Rockston O. Thomas, D Co. operations sergeant, explained that although providing ATC services is the unit’s primary mission, there were many other soldiers responsible for ensuring that mission is met.

“We just don’t have air traffic controllers assigned to our unit – we also have soldiers that are responsible for ensuring the equipment we use is up to par,” he said.

One of those soldiers is Pfc. Debra Ryan, a light wheeled vehicle mechanic.

“I think we are prepared and ready. We’ve trained hard and we’re ready for the unexpected. We’ve practiced working in our MOPP gear, done PMCS, pulled guard duty – anything you can think of that can be done in the field environment, we’ve done it,” she said.

Ryan further pointed out that when she first arrived at Hunter Army Airfield, she didn’t expect to be assigned to an aviation unit, but that she’s glad she had an opportunity to learn about jobs that other soldiers have.

“I think it’s broadened my vision on what everyone’s job is and how important it is to work together to get the job done,” she explained. “It can’t be done with just one type of soldier; it takes all of us pulling



VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Operation Enduring Freedom:

Gen. Richard B. Meyers

Special to The Frontline

This week, we marked the first anniversary of the start of our combat operations against terrorism. The foundation for our success is no secret. The credit belongs to you who serve as part of our armed forces: our sailors, soldiers, airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, DoD civilians and our military families.

Over the past year, I've visited hundreds of you overseas and around the United States. You are dedicated and determined. You have left your homes, your families and, in the case of our Guard and Reserve personnel, you left your jobs. Your service is an example of selflessness and sacrifice.

Those of you that I've met are no different from the hundreds of thousands of others nobly serving — at home and abroad. All are doing the extraordinary.

Over this past year, our Nation's armed forces have achieved a significant measure of success in the War on Terrorism.

A year ago at this time, few predicted the speed or the effectiveness with which we would eliminate the major terrorist haven in Afghanistan. It was a land-locked country. We had no military bases in the vicinity. We had no major war plan to remove the Taliban from power.

Then, twenty-seven days after the

terrorists struck our nation, this joint team unleashed a powerful and lethal campaign. Two months later, our men and women, in concert with our allies and friends, freed Afghanistan. With the help of the international community, we also helped avert a massive famine.

This campaign has been one for the record books. It included the deepest amphibious operation in our Marine Corps history — over 400 miles into hostile territory. It included the highest elevation that our soldiers fought a pitched battle — at 10,000 feet above sea level. It included the longest combat sortie on record for our Air Force — 44 hours in length. Most significant of all, it entailed the fewest war-combatant injuries and the least collateral damage of any major military operation in history.

It was the first time we employed the C-17 in a medium threat environment to airdrop supplies. It was the first time we shared simultaneously a video picture from an unmanned aerial vehicle with the headquarters and the aircrew over the target. No other nation can operate such advanced technology as our armed forces.

Commentary



Message from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

While these examples reflect how technology has changed, the most important factor remains the incredible talent and dedication of our men and women in uniform. You who serve — your adaptability and agility, your courage and character, your discipline and determination, are legendary.

You tackle unpredictable challenges in innovative ways. You make things happen in a dynamic environment. Many of you are 19 and 20 years old. Yet you display the maturity and competence usually associated with much more seasoned troops. You're the driving force in our success.

Our families serve superbly. They provide incredible strength for us all. They endure with patience and grace through extended hours and long periods of separation. Our families deserve our deepest gratitude.

In this war on terrorism, there is more ahead of us than behind us. Three things remain constant.

First, the survival of our nation, our liberties and our way of life will continue to be at risk. Second, our nation will continue to call upon your talents and professionalism. Third, I am confident that you are up to the task. You'll respond as our Armed Forces always have, with courage, honor and sacrifice.

I am privileged to serve with you. May God bless you and your families. And may God bless America.

Readjustment, reconnecting after deployment

Pfc. Brian Trapp

Special to The Frontline

FORT BENNING, Ga. — A deployment's strain on a relationship doesn't end when the soldiers come home. Stresses of readjustment to family life can be tough on a family, too.

"While on a real-world deployment, soldiers deal with stresses of the unknown, being away from their family, and there is a 'no-kidding' life and death struggle," said Lt. Col. John C. Chin, Ph.D., command psychologist, who has worked with special operations the majority of his career. "When soldiers get a sense of mortality, it wakes them up, and they realize it's their family and children who matter the most. If they maintain a solid foundation in those areas, it makes for a better life."

There are more concerns for younger marriages, Chin said. Spouses are faced with new challenges, like financial and child care concerns and become more independent and may feel contempt for the returning soldier for taking some of their independence.

During redeployment, family members typically deal with conflicting emotions. There is the excitement that the soldier is coming home. On the other hand, there is some apprehension, according to the Department of the Army study "The Emotional Cycle of Deployment, a Military Family Perspective."

Some concerns include "Will I give up my independence? Will we get along?"

Ironically, even though the separation is almost over, there can be renewed difficulty in making decisions.

"Soldiers reconnecting with family are coming from profound emotional experiences, and the spouses also had these experiences, dealing with day-to-day issues by themselves, financial issues, taking care of the children and gaining independence, Chin said.

"Sometimes partners can't understand what the other was dealing with while they were apart," he said. "It's better to ease into the relationship — maintaining a degree of independence and not to push spontaneous reconnection. It's a new relationship. Both partners have changed from their experience."



Many spouses also have a burst of energy during this stage, according to the study. There is often a rush to complete "to-do" lists before their mate returns — especially around the home. It is almost inevitable that expectations will be high.

Homecoming for the soldiers can be a joyous occasion, but also a frustrating one. The date of return may change repeatedly. Despite best intentions, the spouse at

home may not be able to meet the returning soldier — short notice, sitters can't be found in the middle of the night, unable to get off work.

Soldiers may expect to be received as "heroes" and "heroines" only to find that they have to make their way home.

The reunion with the children can also be a challenge. Their feelings tend to depend on their age and understanding of why the soldier was gone.

Babies younger than 1 year old may not know the soldier and cry when he or she is around, according to the study. Toddlers may be slow to warm up. Pre-schoolers may feel guilty and scared of the separation. School age children may want a lot of attention. Teenagers may be moody and may not appear to care.

In addition, children are often loyal to the parent who remains behind and do not respond to discipline from the returning soldier, according to the study. They may also fear the soldiers return if a parent says, "Wait till Daddy gets home."

Eventually, soldiers will want to reassert their role as members of the family, which can lead to tension, according to the study. This is an essential task and requires considerable patience to accomplish successfully.

It is not realistic to return home and expect everything to be the same as before the deployment.

Reconnecting and understanding both have changed sometimes during the deployment is critical, Chin said.

The soldier may become a control freak but must realize the spouse gained independence during their time apart, and that's a good thing. It helps to take some of the day-to-day responsibilities off of the soldier.

Soldiers may not approve of privileges granted to children by the non-deployed parent, according to the study. However, it is probably best for the soldier not to try to make changes right away and to take time to renegotiate family rules and norms. Not heeding this advice, the soldier risks invalidating the efforts of their mate and alienating the children.

Soldiers may feel hurt in response to such a lukewarm reception, according to the study. Clearly going slow and letting the children set the pace goes a long way toward a successful reunion.

Post-deployment is probably the most important stage for both soldiers and spouse. Patient communication, going slow, lowering expectations and taking time to get to know each other again is critical to successful reintegration of the soldier back into the family.

The separation of deployment provides soldier and spouse a chance to evaluate changes within themselves and what direction they want their marriage to take. Although a difficult as well as joyful stage, many military couples have reported that their relationship is much stronger as a result.

"NCO and officer leadership need to know their people intimately," Chin said. "Family support groups need to reach out to the young folks, particularly the ones who don't participate, to prepare them for the stresses of deployment."

Most Army installations offer a wide range of service and support for soldiers and their families, Chin said, including counseling from mental health professionals, chaplains and Army Community Service advo-

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

Do you think a high operational tempo contributes to domestic violence?

"In a sense it can. It depends on the family and how well they're situated and their awareness of what's going on with the deployment."

Master Sgt. LeGrand Davis
HHB, 1/41 Field Artillery



"Definitely it can contribute, but it depends on the individual."

Sgt. 1st Class Calvin Mister
A Co. 123rd Signal Bn.

"Yes, but the training we get should help deter it. I've seen both sides where it happened and abuse counseling helped out."

Sgt. Harry DeLanter
B Co., 11th Eng. Bn.



"Yes, most spouses in the military don't understand everything that goes on and why soldiers have to do what they do."

Sgt. Penny Feltman
HQ, STARC (NG)

"Yes, it's stressful when you're constantly in the field. In the last six months I've spent two at home. You get home, and you're tired. The tempo can be too much."

Spec. James Mathias
A Co., 11th Eng. Bn.



"No, I think it's something hardwired into a person."

2nd Lt. Michael Gruber
A Co., 2/7 Inf.

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Updated uniform regulation spells change for females

Spc. Natalie Schlotman
Associate editor

Times have changed, and so have the Army’s standards on how female soldiers should look in uniform. The revised version of Army Regulation 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, took effect Aug. 1. Some of the regulation’s updates apply to hairstyles and colors, as well as nail polish and makeup shades.

The hairstyle guidelines have been modified to include more modern and professional styles. “Females may wear braids and cornrows as long as the braided style is conservative, the braids and cornrows lie snugly on the head, and any hair-holding devices comply with the standards,” states the regulation.

However, dreadlocks are prohibited for all soldiers in uniform or in civilian clothes while on duty. Ponytails, pigtails or braids that are not secured to the head and allow hair to hang freely, or other styles that protrude from the head are not allowed.

Female soldiers often have questions regarding the beret and hairstyles, said Jake Umholtz, installation adjutant general. “Many people have

different attitudes about what they think the regulation should be and what it is,” he said. However, Umholtz said the bottom line is the regulations are in place for a reason, and female soldiers keep the guidelines in mind when choosing a hairstyle. “The beret is intended to fit a certain way. It just doesn’t with certain hairstyles.”

Hair clips should be used only to secure the hair, according to the regulation, and should not be used for decorative purposes. “All hair-holding devices must be plain and of a color as close to the soldier’s hair as is possible, or clear. Authorized devices include, but are not limited to, small, plain scrunchies — elastic hair bands covered with material — barrettes, combs, pins, clips, rubber bands and hair bands,” states the regulation.

Female soldiers have the option to wear extensions, weaves, wigs and hairpieces as long as they have the same appearance as the soldiers’ natural hair. The same is true for hair dyes. “If soldiers use dyes, tints or bleaches, they must choose those that result in natural hair colors,” states the regulation. Female soldiers should use common sense when choosing a hairstyle, as well as when choosing

nail polish and makeup shades, Umholtz said. “A lot of it comes down to making a judgment call. Most people can tell right away if something is too flashy,” he said.

Sgt. Maj. Allie Woods, division G1, also stressed the importance of good judgment. “Hair, makeup and nails should compliment the uniform,” she said.

Prohibited makeup, nail polish and hair dye colors include bright fire-engine red, khaki or camouflage, purple, gold, blue, pink, green, orange, black (for nails and makeup), white and neon colors, according to the regulation.

Female soldiers may not wear nail designs or two-tone manicures — commonly known as French manicures. Nails must be trimmed no longer than 1/4 inch, measured from the fingertip.

It’s important for soldiers to become familiar with the updated 670-1, Woods added. “Because it’s a new regulation, a lot of soldiers aren’t familiar with it. They need to open it up and look at it,” she said.


“A lot of soldiers just have a lack of knowledge. Once they find out about what’s right they won’t have any problems,” she added.

Female side of 670-1

* Soldiers must choose hair dyes that result in a natural hair color. Prohibited shades include purple, blue, pink, green, orange, bright fire engine red and neon colors. Dreadlocks are prohibited in uniform or in civilian clothes on duty.

* Extensions, weaves, wigs and hair pieces are authorized; however, they must have the same general appearance as the soldier's natural hair.

* Females may wear braids and cornrows as long as the braided style is conservative and the braids and cornrows lie snugly on the head. Ponytails, pigtails or braids that are not secured to the head and allow hair to hang freely are prohibited.



* Females are authorized to wear cosmetics with all uniforms. Females will not wear make-up or nail polish shades that distinctly contrast their complexion, detract from the uniform or are extreme. Prohibited colors include purple, gold, blue, black, white, bright red, khaki, camouflage colors and neon colors.

* Soldiers will not apply designs to nails, or apply two-tone or multi-tone colors to nails. This includes French manicures. Females will not exceed a nail length 1/4 inch, as measured from the tip of the finger.

TRICARE Online promises easier, faster service

Rudi Williams

Special to The Frontline

WASHINGTON — TRICARE Prime and Plus beneficiaries have a new tool that makes getting doctor's appointments and health care information as easy as clicking a mouse.

TRICARE Online at www.tricareonline.com is DoD's first effort at using the Internet to reach out and touch patients across the entire military health system, according to Navy Dr. (Capt.) Brian Kelly, E-Business director of the TRICARE Management Activity in Falls Church, Va.

More than 4,000 TRICARE patients have made routine appointments using www.tricareonline.com since testing began in June 2001, he said. The initial test installations were Andrews Air Force Base, Md.; Rader Clinic, Fort Myer, Va.; and Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.

"We're currently at 92 facilities in the Washington, D.C., area; Region 9, Southern California; Region 11, Washington state, Oregon and northern Idaho; and Central Europe," Kelly said. "We hope to be worldwide everywhere

by the end of April 2003."

Kelly said anyone with a Web browser can surf the site, but only TRICARE Prime and Plus beneficiaries in the serviced areas are currently able to use the site to make appointments with primary health care providers. The Web site features a 30- to 40-day calendar showing patients all available appointments with their primary care manager or the manager's team members where they're enrolled.

"Then it's as simple as clicking on the appointment they want," he said.

Beneficiaries must set up a password-protected personal account on the site to take full advantage of TRICARE Online's power, he said.

"Once they do that, we know who the beneficiaries are and in which facilities they're enrolled," Kelly said. "We can then tailor the site to them. They'll have access to a personal health journal where they can record all their own health information in a secure medical journal."

He suggested TRICARE Online could be useful to parents whose children keep different schedules.

"After my kids go to bed, my wife or I can log on, look at all the available

appointments, match them up with the kids' soccer or choir schedule and decide what appointment really is best for them," the doctor said. "Also, when your child wakes up with a sore throat at six in the morning, it's nice to be able to go on the Web then and make an appointment instead of having to wait until everything opens at 7:30 or 8 a.m."

"We decided to start TRICARE Online by focusing on things beneficiaries said they wanted first," Kelly noted. "So we did appointments first." He pointed out that the ability to make appointments only works with primary care managers at military treatment facilities.

People will be able to refill their prescriptions on the Web within the next year, he said. That service currently is unavailable.

TRICARE Online also has more than 18 million pages of health and wellness information and disease management tools for military beneficiaries.

"That's something a lot of people have found very useful," Kelly noted. "We think the information is very high quality and people have really liked it."

www.tricareonline.com

Members can make an appointment with TRICARE Online starting in 2003

Requirements:

◆ Anyone with a Web browser can surf the site, but only TRICARE Prime and Plus beneficiaries in selected service areas are currently able to use the site to make appointments with primary health care providers. The scheduling service will be military-wide in April 2003.

◆ Beneficiaries must set up a password-protected personal account on the site to take full advantage of TRICARE Online.

Site features:

◆ 30-to-40-day calendar showing patients all available appointments with their primary care manager or the manager's team members where the patient is enrolled.

◆ More than 18 million pages of health and wellness information and disease management tools for military beneficiaries.

Future plans for site:

◆ Members will be able to refill their prescriptions on the Web within the next year. That service currently is unavailable.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is the time for Fort Stewart, Hunter to raise awareness about critical women's health issue



Educating the community

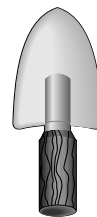
Margaret Jones, health promotion technician for Community Health Nursing, talks to Georgia Southern University student nurse's Shannon McLeod and Milligan Davis about breast cancer in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Educational booths will be set up at Tuttle Army Health Clinic Monday, in the Fort Stewart Post Exchange Oct. 16, and in Winn Army Community Hospital's front lobby Oct. 17. Weekly drawings will be held throughout the month - check by the pharmacy or main lobby to register.

Photo by Laurie Kemp

If you accidentally discover an archaeological site on Fort Stewart:



1. Cease what you are doing immediately.
2. Notify Range Control at 767-8777.
3. Do not attempt to unearth the object or remove it.



BBS: Digital exercise develops brigade combat teams

Command post training tests staff officers' communication abilities

Spc. Natalie Schlotman
Associate editor

Before leading soldiers into battles on rugged mountain ridges, austere deserts or teeming jungles, 3rd Infantry Division commanders and staff officers must fight in an abstract environment.

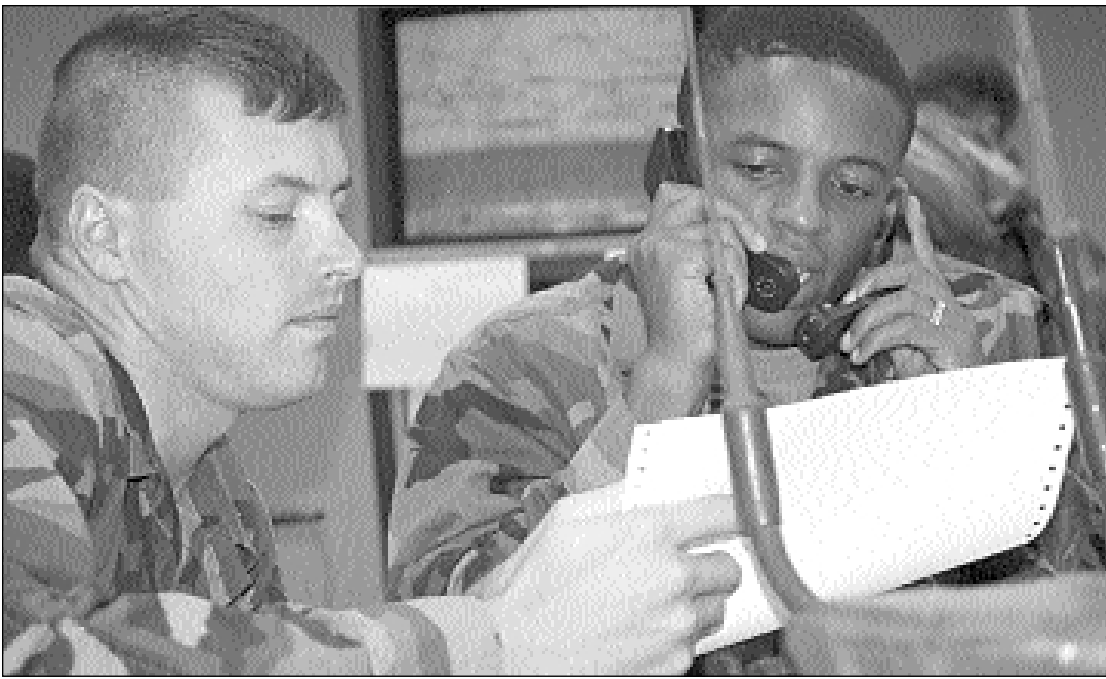
Third Battalion, 69th Armored Regiment and 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, as well as the 2/325th Airborne Infantry Regiment from Fort Bragg, N.C., had their chance to fight on digital terrain during a Brigade Battle Simulation Oct. 1 - 3.

A BBS is a command post exercise in which staff officers on all levels plan, prepare and execute battlefield tactics on a computer, said Maj. Ross Coffman, chief, Division Training and Operations.

Although all battlefield fighting equipment and personnel are incorporated in to the BBS simulations, Coffman said the exercise hones in on the command and control capabilities of officers.

"There are soldiers maneuvering vehicles on the computer, but the main target audience is task force- and brigade-level staff," he said, adding that a BBS is a time for observer controllers to evaluate leaders closely. "It gives the brigade a tool to train the command post leaders in a controlled environment," he said.

The BBS combat scenarios are based on information programmed into the computer



Spc. Natalie Schlotman

Staff Sgt. William Perkins and 1st Lt. Omar Ritter, both scouts with the 1st Brigade Reconnaissance Troop, radio in enemy locations during a BBS Oct. 1.

system. That information, according to Coffman, comes from an operations order that is created based on the training needs of each unit.

The order outlines the graphics on the battlefield, such as specific terrain types. Training objectives, such as which areas to defend, are also outlined.

Along with creating the friendly blue force guidelines, an operations order for the opposing red force is created.

That forces friendly forces to face a realis-

tic, thinking enemy, Coffman said. "We input the blue force and red force starting positions, their objectives and the terrain graphics," he said. "The simulation is as close to combat operations as we can portray. Soldiers fight it out in real time — head-to-head against each other." Soldiers and officers engaged in the simulated combat operations on the first training day. They fought in a desert environment against 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, who posed as the red force.

As the command post met its training

objectives, after-action reviews were held to highlight any lessons learned, Coffman said.

"The BBS is geared off of objectives. As the objectives are met, we halt the training and hold an AAR to discuss what went right and what went wrong," he said.

Leaders then apply the lessons as they move onto the next phases of training.

The BBS demonstrates the importance of good communication, and it is good practice for officers who must relay battlefield information to higher levels, said 1st Lt. Omar Ritter, A Company, 2/7 Inf.

"This makes everyone in the brigade communicate better. When I send up a report, they will know what I'm talking about," he said. "This is mainly for the brigade staff, but it's a good thing for everyone in our unit to be part of," said Ritter, whose job was to radio enemy locations and targets to the brigade command. Leaders participate in live fire and force-on-force exercises before fighting behind a screen, Coffman said, adding that the BBS is the next step on the training ladder.

The BBS is the capstone command post exercise prior to Marne Focus or a rotation to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., he said.

"The sequential training is effective," Coffman said. "That's why the 3rd inf. Div. goes to NTC so prepared. It allows them to get the most out of the training opportunity."

Coffman summed up the BBS as an effective team-building tool. "BBS helps the battalion and brigade levels to become a cohesive fighting unit," he said. "It builds the brigade combat team, and it makes them stronger through improved communications. That common understanding is what allows us to win," he said.

'5 Ds' keep B Co, 10th Eng Bn DUI free more than 1,600 days

Sgt. Raymond Piper
Editor

Since May 2, 1998, B Company 10th, Engineer Battalion has been DUI free.

Staying DUI free for more than 1,600 days is something the unit takes great pride in, said Capt. James Ahearn, B Co. commander.

"We feel proud and don't want to let our buddy down," said Private 2 Chris Melendez, a combat engineer with 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon. "We've made it this far and don't want to screw it up."

"It's not like anyone in B Co. doesn't drink, but they go out there with a plan," said Ahearn.

"I believe our overall success has been because we watch each other's backs and take care of each other

and go out with a plan," said Spc. Atthaporn Kaekon, a combat engineer with 1st Squad, 1st Platoon.

To help the soldiers plan for the weekend, the leadership in the company developed the five Ds several years ago.

"The five Ds raise awareness against potential problems and forces them to think about how to stay out of trouble," Ahearn said.

The five Ds are: Drinking, Driving under the influence, Drugs, Don't know doesn't make a good excuse, and Dudes and Dames.

On the last duty day of the week, five soldiers are identified to review the Ds as part of the safety briefing.

"Talking about it focuses everyone in the company on doing the right thing," said Ahearn.

The commander asks each of the selected soldiers to explain and give

an example of the dangers associated with a certain D.

"By being in front of the soldiers and talking about the dangers, it let's them know the punishments and dangers, and how to prevent problems," said Staff Sgt. Rodney Russell, 2nd squad leader, 2nd Platoon.

When a new soldier arrives at the unit, he is given a briefing about the five Ds by the company first sergeant.

"The briefing makes them think really hard about going and drinking and driving and ruining the pride the company has in the company and DUI free days," said B Co. 1st Sgt. Butler Kendrick. "It's about doing the right thing," said Ahearn. "DUIs aren't just about breaking the law. The soldier could hurt themselves or someone else."



Pfc. Natalie Schlotman

Capt. James Ahearn, B Co. commander, goes over the "5 Ds" with his soldiers during a safety briefing Friday. The Ds — Drinking, Driving under the influence, Drugs, Don't know doesn't make a good excuse, and Dudes and Dames — raise awareness against potential problems.

Security measures protect competitors

Joe Burlas

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Maria Vargas is a working mom and concerned about the safety of her young daughters. Because of her concern, she ensures the two participate in after-school activities or are otherwise actively supervised by responsible adults until she gets home from work.

Vargas' concern carries over to her daughters' use of the Internet which she says they love to use to communicate with friends and play games. She has set time limits on computer use for each child, warned them about strangers they may meet in chat rooms and installed parental control software. Yet she knows that may not be enough to fully protect her children from unsavory characters that lurk in cyberspace.

Just recently, Vargas returned home and found an instant text message on the computer addressed to one of her children that asked if the child was home alone. When the children arrived, both said they did not know who sent the message.

"I can tell you that it really scared me," Vargas said. "You never know who can be trying to contact your children online. It requires constant supervision."

Supervision through online monitoring is one of the safeguards eCybermission uses against unsavory characters who might want to establish relationships with youngsters using the new Army-sponsored education initiative, Vargas said.

eCybermission is a new Web-based science, math and technology competition for teams of three to four seventh- and eighth-graders. It is designed to stimulate interest in those subjects, officials said. Registration for this year's competition runs through Nov. 28.

Vargas, who works as an eCybermission manager for Army contractor Booze-Allen & Hamilton, discussed some of the security safeguards with attendees of the initiative's launch announcement at Edgar Allan Poe Middle School in Alexandria, Va., Oct. 1.

Beyond the monitoring of the system, other safeguards include:

- An instant messaging system that only works with other eCybermission participants and administrators through a secure server.
- Youth-only register with a screen name of their choice, date of birth, gender and zip code — no youth e-mail addresses or other personal information will reside within the eCybermission database.
- All collaboration and other communications for the project are done through the secure server via its monitored text-messaging program, chat rooms and discussion forums.

See SECURITY, Page 10A

Iraq

from page 1A

the United States," he said.

But the president also noted chemical and biological attacks don't require sophisticated delivery systems. "All that might be required are a small container and one terrorist or Iraqi intelligence operative to deliver it," he said.

Bush said the Iraqi links with terrorist organizations is the U.S. government's most urgent concern. He said Saddam Hussein has links with known terror groups. Iraq has served as a haven for the Abu Nidal group and the Abu Abbas groups, and the government's links with al Qaeda go back at least a decade, he said. Hussein has also offered to bankroll Hamas and Islamic Jihad suicide bombers launching attacks in Israel.

Bush said some of the al Qaeda terrorists who escaped U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan have found succor in Iraq. He said a senior al Qaeda leader received medical treatment in Baghdad this year. He said the terrorist has been associated with planning for chemical and biological attacks.

"Iraq could decide on any given day to provide a biological or chemical weapon to a terrorist group or an individual terrorist," Bush said. "An alliance with a terrorist regime could allow Iraq to attack America without leaving any fingerprints."

The president flatly declared that confronting Iraq is an integral part of the war on terrorism. He said Saddam Hussein is harboring terrorists and is building instruments of terror in weapons of mass destruction. "The risk is simply too great that he will use them or provide them to a terror network," Bush said.

Bush also addressed the Iraqi nuclear weapons program. He said the United States does not know the extent of the Iraqi effort, "and that's the problem." Before the Gulf War, best estimates were it would take Iraq eight to 10 years to develop a nuclear weapon. After the war, however, inspectors learned Iraq had been only six months to two years

from having a weapon.

Bush said the evidence is that Hussein has reconstituted the nuclear program and that he has met several times with nuclear scientists he calls his "nuclear Mujahedin."

The regime is rebuilding facilities and is seeking to buy equipment used to enrich uranium. "If the Iraqi regime is able to produce, buy or steal an amount of highly enriched uranium a little larger than a single softball, it could have a nuclear weapon within a year," Bush said. "If we allow that to happen, a terrible line would be crossed."

If Hussein got a nuclear weapon he would be able to blackmail anyone opposing him in the region. He would

"The time for denying and delaying has come to an end."

President George W. Bush
commander-in-chief

also be in a position to threaten America and the West and he would be in a position to pass this technology to terrorists.

"Facing clear evidence of peril, we cannot wait for final proof: the smoking gun that could come in the form of a mushroom cloud," Bush said. "Understanding the threats of our time, knowing the designs and deceptions of the Iraqi regime, we have every reason to assume the worst, and we have an urgent duty to prevent the worst from occurring."

Inspections and diplomatic and economic pressure have not worked in the past 11 years. Bush said the United States wants the United Nations to be an effective organization to keep the peace. Iraq has flouted U.N. power over the past 11 years. Bush has urged a new Security Council resolution on Iraq be adopted by the world body. He called on this resolution to have requirements.

"Among those requirements: the Iraqi regime must reveal and destroy, under U.N. supervision, all existing

weapons of mass destruction," Bush said. "To ensure that we learn the truth, the regime must allow witnesses to its illegal activities to be interviewed outside the country — and these witnesses must be free to bring their families with them so they are all beyond the reach of Saddam Hussein's terror and murder. And inspectors must have access to any site, at any time, without pre-clearance, without delay, without exceptions."

"The time for denying and delaying has come to an end," the president continued. "Saddam Hussein must disarm himself or, for the sake of peace, we will lead a coalition to disarm him."

Bush said the Iraqis must also end its support of terrorism, stop persecuting its own people, stop the illicit use of the U.N. Oil for Food program and account for all Gulf War personnel still missing, including U.S. Navy Cmdr. Mike Speicher.

Only by these steps can the Iraqi regime hope to avoid conflict. "I hope this will not require military action, but it may," Bush said.

A cornered Saddam Hussein may order attacks with weapons of mass destruction. "If Saddam Hussein orders such measures, his generals would be well advised to refuse those orders," Bush said. "If they do not refuse, they must understand that all war criminals will be pursued and punished. If we have to act, we will take every precaution that is possible. We will plan carefully; we will act with the full power of the United States military. We will act with allies at our side, and we will prevail."

Bush said Congress will vote on a measure that will allow the U.S. military to enforce U.N. Security Council resolutions. "Approving this resolution does not mean that military action is imminent or unavoidable," Bush said.

"The resolution will tell the United Nations, and all nations, that America speaks with one voice and is determined to make the demands of the civilized world mean something. Congress will also be sending a message to the dictator in Iraq: that his only choice — is full compliance.



Belgian officer, family make 2-year stop at Fort Stewart

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Staff Writer

U.S. soldiers throughout the world are exposed to the people, cultures and customs of other countries.

Less common is the opportunity for foreign soldiers to be exposed to the daily routine of U.S. Army units and organizations, and our way of life.

Commandant Geert Leeman, an officer in the Belgian army, was given that opportunity in June 2001 when he arrived at Fort Stewart as part of the Military Personnel Exchange Program – a bilateral agreement between nations where countries exchange military personnel who subsequently work for the host country in a garrison capacity.

Leeman, a tall and slender man who speaks excellent English, has been in the Belgian army for 17 years.

He is an accomplished, as well as educated, man.

“My last assignment was as an instructor at the war college in Brussels,” he said casually. “While I was working in the project office, I composed the Belgian army manual ‘Military Decision-Making Process’ – the equivalent to FM 101-5.”

Leeman’s educational achievements dwarf his accomplishments at the war college. He has a Master’s degree in Social and Military Science from the Royal Military Academy in Brussels in addition to a Master’s degree in Managerial Economics and an MBA.

With so many credits to his name, one would wonder why he is a rank equivalent to that of major in the U.S. Army.

“It is very difficult to get promoted,” Leeman said. “There are only 60,000 soldiers (in the Belgian army), so there aren’t as many officers (as the U.S.).”

Those 60,000 soldiers are tasked to defend a country of 10



million people nestled between the Netherlands, Germany, France and Luxembourg, and covering an area 30,518 square miles – roughly the size of South Carolina.

“The cost of living is much higher in Belgium because it is such a small country,” the 35-year-old Leeman said. “It costs roughly five dollars per gallon of gasoline.”

While he boasted of the country’s nation-wide health program, he noted that it comes with a hefty price,

“Everybody is provided the best in health care,” he said. “But every working citizen is taxed 50 percent of their wages to compensate for all the government benefits.”

Leeman, upon arriving state-side, said he was pleasantly surprised by the more user-friendly economy, advanced military, diverse culture and enjoyable weather.

“It was a very nice change moving to a warm climate,” he said, wearing an expression of relief. “I come from a cold, damp country – it rains 300 days out of the year.”

Currently a logistics officer for the Division Material Management Center, Leeman has also served as an operations planning officer for DISCOM.

“It’s been a wonderful experience for me to work with such great people in a high-tech environment,” Leeman said. “I’m very impressed by the automation of U.S. battlefield operation systems. We don’t have nearly as many of (the U.S.) resources in Belgium.”

Leeman added that socially, the U.S. Army is a tightly knit community.

“(Belgium) doesn’t have a specific military garrison life. There is no housing on the installations.”

He also said that everyone he worked with usually drove up to 50 miles to and from work. “It’s primarily a workplace, not much for community.”

At first, adjustment to a new land and culture wasn’t easy for Leeman, his wife of 13 years, Veerley, or his eight-year-old daughter, Sarah.

“When we first arrived here, it was difficult for my wife and daughter because they didn’t know anybody,” he said. “Additionally, my daughter had to go to her first day of school in America not knowing how to speak English.

“She now speaks English very well and is in the top of her class.”

The most difficult part of living and working in the U.S., Leeman added, is being separated from friends and family who are thousands of miles away.

Leeman will remain at Fort Stewart until May 2003, at which point he and his family will make their way back to Europe.

While in Europe, Leeman will work for two years as aide to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers of Europe commander in chief.

“It will be wonderful being back in Europe, closer to friends and family,” he said. “But my experiences and time in the United States will not soon be forgotten.”

DISCOM soldier captures unit pride, professionalism with paint

Sgt. Raymond Piper

Editor

A soldier in the 703rd Main Support Battalion had a chance to leave his mark on the walls of the Division Support Command headquarters with three murals on a different kind of canvas — the walls.

Col. James Hodges, DISCOM commander, wanted something to represent all of DISCOM and the 3rd Infantry Division, said Maj. Bill Gillespie, DISCOM executive officer.

Pfc. Dion Johnson, a fuel lab technician, was tasked to take blank walls and beautify them.

“I was a little surprised, but I was excited,” said Johnson. “I regularly sketch and painted a little in high school, but this was a big step up. I’ve never painted on walls before.”

Johnson had two very specific tasks of painting the 3ID patch and

distinguished unit crest on one wall. On the third painting, his only guidance was that the commander wanted the brigade colors.

“I was given free reign on the colors. I wanted it to look three dimensional rather than flat. I looked at different flags and came up with my concept,” said Johnson.

Where the colors now adorn the wall, there once was an ordnance bomb. The bomb was only one aspect of the DISCOM, said Gillespie.

He added, “We wanted something to represent all of DISCOM.”

His final product with the brigade colors is meant to give the impression that is is fluttering in a breeze while being securely anchored to the wall.

“The murals show professionalism and unit pride, not only in DISCOM but also in the 703rd,” said Gillespie.



Sgt. Raymond Piper

As his painting shines in the background, Pfc. Dion Johnson accepts a coin from Col. James Hodges, DISCOM Commander for painting three murals on the DISCOM Headquarters building.

eCybermission seeks Army volunteers

Lt. Col. Mark H. Wiggins

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — eCybermission, a new national Web-based math, science and technology competition for seventh- and eighth-grade students, is looking for volunteers from the Army family to help make the new program a success.

The Army launched the competition Oct. 1 to support the president's education initiative to stimulate American youth's interest in the sciences, according to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

Specifically, the Army seeks "ambassadors" and "cyberguides." Ambassadors make promotional visits to local schools and youth groups to encourage participation in eCybermission. Cyberguides provide online advice to students as they complete their projects.

Shinseki said he envisions this initiative to be one way for the Army to give back to America's communities.

"It's about getting students of all capability levels interested in sci-

ence, math and technology," Shinseki said. "The future success of our country depends on having a civilian and military workforce that is skilled in these disciplines. Through the creative use of the Internet, eCybermission can become one of the premier science competitions for the nation."

In future years, the competition is slated to expand to include high school-age students.

To learn more about eCybermission, visit www.ecybermission.com, or e-mail mission-control@ecybermission.com. To become a program ambassador, send an e-mail to ambassadorprogram@bah.com; to become a cyberguide, send your e-mail to cyberguideprogram@bah.com.



Security

from page 8A

- Paid and volunteer staff that monitor the system or interact with the youth to help them find the online resources they need for their projects have all successfully passed a criminal records background check.

"Security was a critical element

that went into the design of eCybermission," Vargas said. "Our intent was to provide a safe environment online where children can have fun while discovering and learning more about math, science and technology."

Huey

from page 1A

Baird came to Fort Stewart for flight school and became a dustoff medical evacuation helicopter pilot for the 283rd Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance) from 1967 to 1968, and served with the 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry from 1970 to 1971.

"This is what this is all about," said Baird. "It's bringing the Huey into backyards and farm yards and into our lives as an icon to honor our veterans."

These Vietnam veterans served at a time when the country was not particularly interested in war or the people who fought in wars, said Midway Mayor James Shipman. These were men fighting because their country called them to fight, and they were never really recognized.

"At the end of World War I and World War II, and even to some extent the Korean War, there were parades and large amounts of recognition, but when it came to Vietnam there was no recognition," Shipman said.

He added, "I think when it's all over ... many veterans will feel that the Vietnam-era veteran has really, finally gotten the recognition that's due."

The trip is not just about honoring the veterans, but aiding in the continuing healing process of the veterans and their families.

"It's not just about the veterans," said McDonald. "Almost everybody that lived at that time lived in the shadow of the blade. If you were too young to go into the service, you watched it daily on TV while you were having dinner. If you were in school, you heard about it."

"You couldn't escape it, so even for those people ... who were too young or too old to serve, this is a part of their history," McDonald said.

The helicopter and crew began its journey Oct. 2 at Fort Rucker, Ala., and will fly to 12 different states and make more than 25 stops along the way.

"As we go places ... this is opening an emotional door for many of them (the veterans). I've seen it today and I've seen it at every LZ we've been to," said McDonald. "I watch them as you hear the sound of the blades and see the emotion in their eyes — we're touching some veterans."

On one of the stops in Florida, McDonald said he had a wife of a veteran come up to him and say, "Can you talk to my husband? He hasn't talked about the war since he came home, but when the Huey landed ... he broke down and is talking."

McDonald said, "I went and talked to him, and he was crying, but he didn't apologize. He said to me, 'You know it was 35 years coming and now it feels like healing.'"

"That's what this flight is all about," McDonald said.

The helicopter originally flew the skies of Vietnam as part of the 173rd Assault Helicopter Company. She was damaged three times by enemy fire. She took small arms fire while flying a resupply mission to a forward area Sept. 18, 1966. One person was wounded, but the mission was completed successfully and the Huey repaired in theater.

On Nov. 13, 1966, during a close-air-support mission, she was again damaged by small arms fire and repaired in theater.

Her most severe damage occurred Jan. 7, 1967, at the Iron Triangle, which is up the Saigon River, during an assault mission on a hot area. Small arms fire through the cockpit damaged the hydraulic system and the helicopter crashed.

"It was so badly damaged that it had to be sling loaded to the base camp where I was at. I was actually one of the last people to see this aircraft damaged in Vietnam," McDonald said.

Since it couldn't be repaired there, it was sent back to the United States for repairs where it later had a life as a Navy and National Guard helicopter, and was used by NASA before it was retired, according to McDonald.

"We found it in a museum in Fort Worth, Texas, and dusted it off and got it prepped up and painted. It's got its battle colors and original battle symbol — the picture of a hat on its nose, because the 173rd was called the Robin Hoods," McDonald said.

"The painting was done by members of the old unit before the helicopter took off. To watch these guys paint their unit helicopter was a beautiful sight," McDonald said.

As the Huey makes what may be its last flight across America, its cargo isn't food or ammunition but remembrance and healing for the veterans and families the helicopter and its crew will visit.

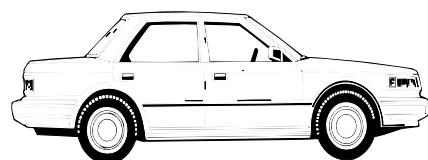


Sgt. Raymond Piper

A flag hangs from the blades of the restored Huey. The flag was hung from the blades by the pilot after the helicopter landed.

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POLICE REPORTS

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 28-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** D-Cell confinement
• **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Specialist, 19-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** Failure to appear
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 19-year-old male
• **Charges:** Simple possession of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Family member, 32-year-old female
• **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** Pre-trial confinement
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 25-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Pre-trial confinement
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Chief Warrant Officer 3, 33-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** Driving on roadways laned for traffic
• **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Family member, 21-year-old female
• **Charges:** Improper backing
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 40-year-old female
• **Charges:** Terrorist threats and acts
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 25-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 23-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
• **Charges:** Failure to appear
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, Headquarters Command
• **Charges:** Three counts of failure to appear
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, Headquarters Command
• **Charges:** Failure to appear
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Family member, 56-year-old female
• **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

Subject: Family member, 27-year-old male
• **Charges:** Simple assault, simple assault consummated by battery
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Simple assault consummated by battery
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 31-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Assault consummated with battery
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 30-year-old female, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Speeding 70/55, expired tags, driving while license suspended
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

ving while license suspended
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 28-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Burglary
• **Location:** Cario

• **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old female, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Two counts deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Sergeant First Class, 41-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Disorderly conduct
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 26-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful use of cocaine, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 37-year-old male, 3rd Brigade
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of cocaine
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 20-year-old male, Separate battalion
• **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 21-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, Failure to obey a lawful order or regulation, driving on post suspension
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 22-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 33-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Improper Backing
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
• **Charges:** Cruelty to children
• **Location:** Ludowici

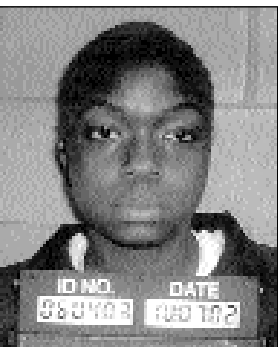
• **Subject:** Sergeant, 28-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** D-cell confinement
• **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** Simple assault
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** D-cell confinement
• **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

Soldier dies as result of stabbing

Jim Jeffcoat
Managing Editor



McLaurin

One Fort Stewart soldier is dead and another is up on a felony murder charge stemming from a barroom fight in a Hinesville club early Saturday.

Spc. Dominique McLaurin, 22, fatally stabbed Pfc. LaTonya Moore, 25, inside the Platinum Club on West Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville around 2:30 a.m. Saturday. McLaurin was later arrested at her home, charged with felony murder and booked in Liberty County jail, according to police report.

Moore was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 87th Corps Support Battalion as a personnel specialist. She entered the military in 1997 from her home of Denver, Colo. Moore has been assigned to Fort Stewart since April 2001.

McLaurin is an automated logistics specialist assigned to E Company, 703rd Maintenance Support Battalion. She enlisted in the Army in September 1998 in Baltimore, Md. She came to Fort Stewart in May 2002.

Lt. James Reid, Hinesville police detective, stated that McLaurin and Moore renewed a month-long feud at the club, which resulted in Moore assaulting McLaurin. Reid said a fight ensued ending with McLaurin stabbing Moore in the chest.

The feud was caused by McLaurin’s belief that Moore was involved in cashing some of McLaurin’s checks, which had been stolen, according to Reid.

Reid said that McLaurin and Moore were not strangers. They were acquaintances with mutual friends.

McLaurin was picked up by Hinesville Police Department and transported to Winn Army Hospital for a burn she sustained and mild shock before being transferred to the Hinesville Police Department Saturday.

The Coastal Courier reports that McLaurin’s case was heard in magistrate’s court Tuesday and bond was denied. She remains incarcerated at the Liberty County Jail.

Moore is survived by her husband Nathaniel Brown and her mother, Mary Moore.

Investigation into the incident continues by Fort Stewart’s Criminal Investigation Division and Hinesville Police Department.

Drinking & Driving
Don't Mix

Stewart

Walk to Kuwait
The 2nd Brigade Combat Team Readiness Group will have a Walk to Kuwait and Back Kick-Off and first mile walk together, from 2 to 4 p.m., Oct. 19. For more information, call Debra Sparks at 368-4472 or Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Fornshell at 767-0035.

Native American Month
The 3rd Inf. Div. Native American Heritage Month Observance hosted by DIVARTY and sponsored by 1st Battalion, 39th Field Artillery, will be held Nov. 15, at Cottrell Field.

The children's program runs from 9 a.m. to noon, and a program for all soldiers, family members and civilians runs from 1:30 to 4 p.m., and features Native American dancing, story telling and exhibits for your enjoyment.

American Red Cross
The American Red Cross is currently seeking individuals who are interested in volunteering at the hospital, youth center, bowling alley, gym, library and Red Cross Office. We are also seeking to fill volunteer leadership positions. Please contact the Fort Stewart Red Cross Office at 767-2197.

Insurance program
You're invited to find out more about the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program. Here's your chance to attend a program educational meeting and learn detailed information about the features of the program.
The meeting will be held at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Oct. 24 and 25, at Woodruff Theater. No pre-registration is needed.
For more information, call 1-800-582-3337 or visit www.LTCFEDS.com.

AAFES Savings Bonds
AAFES has a Recognizing Excellence program which provides coupons and savings bonds to installation-level soldiers and NCOs of the quarter, month and year.
Recognizing Excellence coupon booklets go to each soldier, NCO and soldier of the month at each post. Floyd Wynn, in charge of all facilities at Fort Stewart and Hunter

Army Airfield, will be happy to present the coupon booklets.
The coupons are good at every AAFES PX/BX around the world and they do not have an expiration date.
For more information on how to receive these coupon booklets, please contact Pattie Wise at 767-8330.

Guardfist II
The Guardfist II call for fire facility located in Building 1805 is offering night land navigation classes. Soldiers will receive hands-on training on navigating from point to point during the hours of darkness. This training is especially geared toward soldiers who will be attending the Primary Leadership Development Course. The facility also offers classes in map reading as well as call for fire.
For more information, call Randy Scales, facility manager, at 767-6467/6384.

Fort Stewart Museum
Have your next small unit gathering at the Fort Stewart Museum. To make arrangements or for more information, call 767-7885.

3rd SSB relocating
The 3rd Soldier Support Battalion will close Oct 17-18 to relocate its offices. The emergency points of contact for finance are Sgt. 1st Class Nestor Rubio, 767-4679, or Sgt. 1st Class Margaret Furman, 767-1763. The emergency point of contact for personnel is Chief Warrant Officer 2 Valerie Brooks, 767-9183/5709/6883.
The Marne Welcome Center will remain operational during the move. The Customer Service areas are scheduled to re-open Oct. 21.

The new customer service building numbers and location are:
Building 9122 - PAC Customer Service (Processing)
Building 9123 - Customer Service (Pay Inquiries)
Building 9124 - SIDPERS
Building 9125 - AWOL/DFR; Debt Management
Building 9126 - Promotions & Evaluations
Building 9127 - Officer & Enlisted Records

Attention motorists
Section six of Perimeter Road (southwest of the Hunter Army Airfield golf course to the intersection of Rio Gate Road and Perimeter Road) at Hunter will be closed to thru traffic from Monday through Nov. 15.
Closure of the road is necessary due to removal of existing pavement and base material and replacement with new base and asphalt pavement. Motorists are asked to utilize North Perimeter Road during this phase of construction.

Hunter Golf Club
Hunter Golf Club will sponsor the Savannah Coastal Classic ABC Handicap Tournament on Saturday, Sunday, Oct. 19, 20, 26 and 27. Call 352-5622 for more information.

Tuttle Army Health Clinic
Tuttle will be closed today for Organization Day and Friday for the training holiday. For urgent care, call 1-800-652-9221. In the event of an emergency, patients are advised to go to the nearest emergency room.

Home buyer's workshop
Looking for a new home? Come to the home buyer's workshop Oct. 17 at noon and 6 p.m. in the Army Community Service center, Building 1286.
For more information or to sign up, call 352-6816.

Make a Difference Day
The Hunter Community Block Party/Make a Difference Day will be held Oct. 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Army Community Services center parking lot, Building 1286.

Youth Sports
Basketball and cheerleading registration will be Oct. 21 through Nov. 15. Basketball is open to children ages seven - 18 and cheerleading is open to children ages six - 12. The registration fee is \$20. For more information, call 352-6075.

Hunter Community Meeting
A Hunter Army Airfield Community Meeting will be held at

7 p.m., Oct. 22, at the Army Community Service center, Building 1286.

Halloween in housing
The porch light policy will be in effect during trick or treating in the housing areas, from 6 to 8 p.m., Oct. 31.

Rio Gate now open
The Rio Gate is now open to vehicles with Department of Defense decals only. The gate will be open at the following times: 5:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Monday - Wednesday, and Friday; 5:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday; 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The gate will be closed on federal holidays.

NFL tickets
Reserve your tickets now for the Nov. 3 Falcons vs. Ravens and the Dec. 1 Jaguars vs. Steelers games. Call 767-2841 for more information.

Prayer Breakfast
The 260th and 559th Quartermaster Battalions will be hosting a pre-Thanksgiving Day Prayer Breakfast, at 6:30 a.m., Nov. 22, at the Hunter Club. The breakfast is free to meal card holders; \$2 for non-meal card holders.

Health benefits advisor
Kathy Wise is the health benefits advisor for Tuttle. You can find her office in Room C-158 Monday through Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 1:15 to 4:30 p.m., and on Thursdays from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Her telephone number is 352-5062 or e-mail her at Kathryn.Wise@se.amedd.army.mil.

Patient education video
A patient education video series is offered at various times throughout Tuttle. Topics include asthma, gallstones, insomnia, low-back pain, ulcers and a well women's series. Check at the sign-in desk for topics, times and locations where the videos will be shown.

Volunteer orientation
A mandatory orientation for all new American Red Cross/Winn volunteers will be from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Nov. 1 in the hospital conference room, 2nd Floor. For more information, call Brigitte Roberts at 370-6903. Her e-mail address is Brigitte.Roberts@se.amedd.army.mil. The next volunteer orientation will be Dec. 6.

Breast Cancer Awareness
Visit Winn's educational booth for Breast Cancer Awareness Month Oct. 16 at the Main Post Exchange on Fort Stewart, and Oct. 17 in the Winn front lobby.

Physical therapy evaluations
Winn's physical therapy staff will be at the AAFES Main Exchange shoe department from 10 a.m. to noon, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to noon for foot type evaluations and running shoe prescription. Stop by to find out if you are running in the correct shoes.

TRICARE presentation
All new-to-the-Army and new-to-Fort-Stewart spouses are invited to attend a special presentation designed to help you make the most out of your healthcare services at Winn. The presentation will be at 7 p.m., Oct. 23, in the hospital auditorium. Learn about enrolling locally in TRICARE, making appointments in our primary care clinics, having prescriptions filled, and so much more. A tour is included. Call the Patient Representative office with questions, 370-6225/6143.

Winn holiday
Services at Winn will be limited to inpatient care and emergencies on Friday and Monday. On Friday, sick call will be held from 7 to 10 a.m. at Soldier Family Health Clinic No. 1, Building 701. For information, call SFHC No. 1 at 767-7201.

Bereavement Support Group
All military beneficiaries (soldiers and spouses), including retirees and their families, who have experienced the loss of a loved one

are welcome to attend
Monthly support group meetings, workshops, and consulting in Social Work Services, Building 311 (behind the ER), adjacent to Winn. This support group meets the second Tuesday of each month. For further information, call 370-6779. The next meeting will be Nov. 12.

Medication refills
The Behavioral Health Clinic at Winn provides medication refills from 3:30 to 4 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Call 370-6100 in advance as patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Patients should keep their regularly scheduled appointments and obtain medication refills at that time.

"Winn Delivers" videos
Expectant moms and partners unable to attend a scheduled labor and delivery tour at Winn can now borrow a video tape that contains a 15-minute tour. This video gives families a sneak peek at what to expect during and after delivery at Winn. Copies are available in the OB-GYN Clinic on the fourth floor or at the Public Affairs Office on the first floor at Winn.

TRICARE Service Center
All health benefits and TRICARE questions can be answered in one place. The TRICARE Service Center is open for business in Building T-301, the old Behavioral Health Building, next to the ER and adjacent to the Outpatient Clinic entrance at Winn.

The TRICARE Service Center telephone number remained the same, 368-3048. They joined the Health Benefits Branch, already in that building. If you have any questions for the Health Benefits Branch call 370-6015.

Prenatal/child birth class
This four-session class begins the first Tuesday of every month. Classes are held from 6 to 8 p.m. for four consecutive Tuesdays in the Winn dining facility. Expectant parents are encouraged to sign up to attend the class by the beginning of their third trimester - 28 to 32 weeks.

Army launches Web-based science competition

Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — If America’s middle schoolers accept the Army’s challenge to compete in it’s new Web-based science, math and technology competition, the nation’s future pool of scientists, mathematicians and engineers should swell.

“Accept the challenge” is the tagline for eCybermission. Senior Army leaders launched the education initiative at Edgar Allen Poe Middle School in Annandale, Va., Oct. 1.

“In America, so many of the privileges and comforts we enjoy were made possible

through advances in math, in science, in engineering, and in the technologies they enable,” Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki said.

“From the automobile to the space shuttle, from the telegraph to the Internet, our progress has been marked by leadership and innovation in the disciplines of math, science and engineering. Incredibly, however, there seems to be decreasing interest in these subjects.”

Shinseki cited statistics of a shrinking science and technology workforce — 45 percent of that labor pool is more than 45 years old, 19 percent is currently eligible for retirement and 35 percent will be eligible for retirement within the next five years.

eCybermission is about reversing that trend, he said.

The Army began working on the eCybermission concept about a year and a half ago when Shinseki told his staff he wanted the Army to support the president’s push to stimulate math, science and technology interest among American youth, according to Suzanne Carlton, a special assistant to the chief.

He also told us he wanted to give something back to the communities that give the young men and women who man the Army’s formations, she said.

“This competition is not your standard, typical science fair competition that is geared for just the best and the brightest students,” Carlton said.

“It is inclusive of a broad range of students, whether they makes As or Cs or whatever their background is. It is about showing that science, math and technology are a part of their daily lives and stimulating their interest to learn more about those areas.”

The Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, Logistics and Technology and Army contractor Booz-Allen & Hamilton developed and implemented the eCybermission concept.

Teams of three to four seventh- or eighth-graders register online at **www.ecybermission.com** and then select a project that impacts their local community from the categories of Health and Safety, Arts and Entertainment, Sports and Recreation, or the Environment. eCybermission allows teams to collaborate online through the use of a secure instant messaging system. Volunteer CyberGuides provide online assistance by providing guidance on where to find research material online, answering questions and keeping the students on target.

The Army conducted a beta test of the program last spring. Forty-one teams representing seven school districts participated. The winning project of that test was about building safer swimming pools through the use of polyethylene tiles inside pools to avoid abrasions, polyvinyl around pools to soak up water and avoid slippery surfaces,

and underwater cameras to allow lifeguards to see anyone who might be having problems under the surface.

“We heard about the competition last year from our science teacher, said Ashley Post, a member of the Frost Middle School, Fairfax, Va., winning team. “Summer was coming so pools and swimming was on all our minds. The online project was a lot of fun.”

Other members of the beta test winning team included Gwendolyn Yao, Rachel Solomon and Sue Xue.

Registration for this year’s competition opened Oct. 1 and runs through Nov. 28. Judging of projects will occur in May.

Project scores will be determined based upon four weighted categories: Application of Science, Math and Technology — 40 percent; Innovation, Originality and Creativity — 20 percent; Benefit to the Community — 20 percent; and Collaboration and Communication — 20 percent.

The competition is open to seventh- and eighth-graders in public and private schools, those being home-schooled, and from overseas Department of Defense schools.

Prizes range from a \$2,000 savings bond per team member for category winners to a \$5,000 savings bond per team member of the national winner. Regional team members get a \$3,000 savings bond each.

Those not interested in competing in an online math, science and technology competition can still have fun with eCybermission’s Mission Max section, Carlton said.

Mission Max is a Web-based interactive game that has players explore a range of planets. As players explore, they are exposed to different problems that require the use of math, science and/or technology to solve. Mission Max was created by the Army’s simulation think tank, the Institute for Creative Technologies based in Los Angeles.

The chief made it clear eCybermission wasn’t about recruiting. “This is about stimulating interest in math, science and technology among American youth — if I want to recruit, I have a whole other organization that does that,” Shinseki said.



Michelle Bard

Gen. Eric K. Shinseki watches eighth-grader Rob Siler give a demonstration of Web-based science, math and technology competition, eCybermission. eCybermission, sponsored by the Army, was officially launched Oct. 1 at Edgar Allen Poe Middle School in Annandale, Va.

Tuition

from page 1A

The increase was in response to changes made in law (10 USC 2007) two years ago. A revision to Army Regulation 621-5 is currently being staffed, officials said.

Yoo said the policy could not be implemented immediately when it was enacted. “We couldn’t snap our fingers and change it,” Yoo said. “Additional funds had to be programmed to support the change.” There is a misconception that the new tuition assistance will always cover 100 percent of tuition,

Yoo said. However, the Army will pay 100 percent only if the institution’s fees are \$250 per semester hour or less.

If the fees exceed \$250, the Army will not pay more to cover the difference, she said. “If you are really strapped for cash, federal grants are available. You can still apply for Pell grants,” Yoo said. Enrolled soldiers may also draw funds from their Montgomery GI Bill. Active-duty soldiers can receive up to \$32,400 for 36 months or more of service effective Oct. 1.

Soldiers enrolled in the MGIB, and who have also been on active duty for at least two years, can elect to use part of their MGIB entitlement to cover tuition costs which exceed the Tuition Assistance cap. This add-on benefit is called “Top-Up.”

The Tuition Assistance Program was introduced in 1947 to showcase the Army’s commitment to educating its soldiers, officials said.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Fort Stewart McGruff
Safe House Program



All inquiries or request for information should be directed to:
Attn: H.L. Goodwin, Army Community Service
76 Lindquist Avenue, BLDG 470, Fort Stewart, GA 31314-5512
Phone: (912) 767-5058/5059 • Fax: (912) 767-5502
Sponsored by DCAS
Army Community Service – Family Advocacy Program

AFAP

from page 1A

was the lack of signage on post. "This is something that can be taken care of at the local level," Poltorak said.

Some of AFAP's previous successes include the increase in the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance from \$50,000 to \$200,000, increase in Family Separation Allowance from \$75 to \$100 per month, and programs such as the Army Family Team Building and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers.

Solving these issues takes time, Wiginton said. "Resources are sometimes a restriction."

"We have a lot of things to fix, but we have a lot happening," Poltorak said.

Upcoming improvements to post include a new education center, new gates at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, a new soldier service center and a new Burger King. Furthermore, the Post Exchange is scheduled for completion in April 2003, according to Poltorak.

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2002 AFAP Issues

•Issue: Retirement benefits determined by final base pay
Recommendation(s): Calculate retirement on final base pay.

•Issue: Early separation for civilian employment
Recommendation(s):

1. Make all soldiers who have served honorably, eligible for early separation within a 90-day window of ETS.
2. Provide letter of intent for prospective employer with a valid POC to verify the time-sensitive nature of the job.
3. Approval should be sought on a DA 4187 routed to the first O-6 in the soldier's chain of command.

•Issue: Time compensation for frequent deployments and field exercises
Recommendation(s):

1. Enforce payday activities and Marne Time.
2. Authorize battalion-level command to release soldiers during non-productive time, which can be better spent with families or accomplishing personal business.
3. Implement sufficient time compensation for all soldiers following field problems or deployments.

•Issue: Higher Educational Standards and Transferability of School Requirements and Scholarships
Recommendation(s):

1. Implement national standards for graduation.
2. Develop and implement a mutual agreement to accept credits that a student earned from previous schools.

•Issue: Inadequate Tricare enrollment/information packets
Recommendation(s): Tricare should mail detailed information packets to the enrollee, not the sponsor, outlining detailed and specific levels of service and treatment available.

•Issue: Moldy, pest infested, broken barracks endanger soldiers' health
Recommendation(s):

1. Establish Department of Public Works (DPW) liaison at battalion level.
2. Establish a training program for repair and utilities (R&U) soldier to maintain barracks.
3. Require R&U to process and track daily work order requests, and maintain a supply of self-help items.

•Issue: Elimination of up-front out-of-pocket expenses when using the Montgomery GI Bill for college tuition and books
Recommendation(s): Eliminate out-of-pocket expenses for books not included in tuition cost(s) by looking at entire educational curriculum.

•Issue: Lack of access to education center after duty hours
Recommendation(s): Reallocate Education Center customer service and resource hours to include some evening and/or weekend hours.

•Issue: Receiving resources necessary for successful integration in the military community
Recommendation(s):

1. Touch screen information systems.
2. Information Kiosks on post.
3. Redesign Improcessing System—welcome packets prior to arrival; spouse/family member attendance at improcessing; and post/community tour improvements.

•Issue: Sustainment of professional soldiering
Recommendation(s):

1. Reduce impact of post support on units by contracting all facilities and maintenance tasking.
2. Fence Sergeant's Time training. Approval to cancel Sergeant's Time must be sought at Division Level.

•Issue: No choice of public schools for military youth

Scope: Most military families do not have choice of which public school(s) their children attend.
Recommendation(s): Require military leaders and family advocacy organizations to work with their civilian counterparts nationwide to establish policies that allow school choice.

•Issue: Medical TDY information and compensation
Recommendation(s):

1. Educate medical staff/Tricare staff and commands at all levels on availability, processing and qualifications for medical TDY compensation.
2. Appoint Tricare as the proponent of medical TDY paperwork. This will maintain consistent distribution of information on the medical TDY compensation program.

•Issue: Post-wide transportation availability
Recommendation(s):

1. Implement a post shuttle service between Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.
2. Create an internal post shuttle system on both Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

•Issue: Compensation for lost retirement benefits
Recommendation(s): Retired servicemembers receive an increase in benefits parallel with pay raises for active duty personnel.

•Issue: Improve post signage
Recommendation(s): Post or erect signs around the installation to guide people to facilities as commonly seen on Navy/Air Force installations.

•Issue: Insufficient activities for young adults age 14 and up
Recommendation(s):

1. More advertisement in community newspapers, TV and school announcements. Partnership with the community through sponsorship.
2. Ages 14 and up access to gym without adult.
3. Offer different activities versus non-traditional.

On Post

Golf Course

Taylor's Creek Golf Course offers Senior Blitz on Thursdays with a 9 a.m. tee off. They also offer a Dogfight Tournament at 7:30 a.m., and Men's Blitz at 1 p.m. on Saturdays and at 1 p.m. on Sundays.

Golf Scramble

The fourth annual Nighthawk Classic Golf Tournament will be held Oct. 25 at Taylor's Creek Golf Course. Sign in will begin at 7:15 a.m. and the shotgun start will be at 8 a.m.

There is a \$30 per person fee that includes lunch, greens fees, cart and mulligans.

All golfers and teams need to be registered by Oct. 21. For more information, call 767-0787 or 767-2370.

Jordan Gym renovations

Jordan Gym is closed for renovation until January.

Marne tournaments

A 9-pin, no-tap tournament will be held the first Saturday of every month at Marne Lanes.

Sign up starts at 6:30 p.m. Bowling starts at 7 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person. Cash prizes will be awarded. The tournament is sponsored by the Fort Stewart Women's Bowling Association.

A scotch doubles tournament is held the third Saturday of every month at Marne Lanes. Bowling starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per couple. Cash prizes will be awarded. For more information, call 767-4866.

Massage therapy program

There is a massage therapy program at Newman Fitness Center. Therapeutic massage is a gentle method of alleviating pain and in combination with medical attention, heals certain conditions and helps prevent their return.

Massage therapy is available from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Or, call to make an appointment, cost is \$1 per minute.

Youth B-ball, cheerleading

Youth ages 6 to 18 can sign up for basketball and cheerleading starting Nov. 4 at CYS in Building 443. The fee is \$20 per child. Sign-ups continue until teams are full. For more information, call CYS at 767-2312, or Corkan Gym at 767-2143.

Off Post

Short Stuff Basketball

The West Broad Street YMCA is registering boys and girls age 5 to 12 for the "Short Stuff" Basketball Program. The program will be held from 10 a.m. to 11:45 p.m., Oct. 12 through Dec. 14, at the gymnasium at the YMCA at 1110 May Street, Savannah.

The focus of YMCA basketball is not winning, but the fundamentals of the game with an emphasis on character development. The registration fee is \$35 per person. The deadline to register is Oct. 11. For more information, call Shannon Smith at 233-1951.

Aerobics classes

The West Broad Street YMCA offers aerobics. The classes are held 11 a.m. to noon, noon to 1 p.m., 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., every Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and from 9 to 10 a.m., on Saturdays. There is no fee for YMCA members and \$30 for non-members per month. For more information, call 233-1951.

If you're interested in having your sports articles, commentaries or briefs posted in The Frontline, call 767-3440, or fax at 767-5979. Deadline is noon on Fridays.

Tourney gives green to future law officers

John Rowden Memorial Golf Tournament raises money for AASU scholarship

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer

The foursome of L.C. Williams, Stan York, Bruce Jones and Henry Thompson shot a 16-under 72 to win the John Rowden Memorial Golf Tournament at Hunter Golf Club Friday.

The tournament was a select-shot format, allowing each member of a team to hit and choose the best of their four shots.

"It was an honor to play in such a good tournament," said York, who was a friend of Rowden's. "It was neat to go down there to a course I was introduced to by John and win in his memory and his honor."

The teams were split into morning and afternoon groups. The top four teams from the morning round were awarded rounds of golf for four at various golf courses in the area.

The top five teams in the afternoon were awarded similar rounds, and the overall champions won a round at the Hutchison Island Course, said Frank Lee, a friend of Rowden's who set up a scholarship fund at Armstrong Atlantic State University last year and coordinates the tournament to raise money for the fund.

Rick Riggs, Steve Morca, Roger Crews and Rick Kretzchman won the morning round.

Rowden, a member of the course who was an avid golfer, died last year, Lee said. He was an agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and was respected by his peers in law



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Troy Alford tees off on the eighth hole at Hunter Golf Club during the John Rowden Memorial Tournament Friday. His foursome finished second in the early round.

enforcement. Lee was a fellow ATF agent with Rowden and both called hunter their home course.

"The scholarship was set up for working law enforcement officers who are pursuing degrees in criminal justice at AASU," Lee said. "The school chooses one each semester."

Rowden was once such a student, Lee said. As a married police officer and father with the

Oklahoma Police Department, he finished his degree before moving on to the ATF.

The tournament raises money for the scholarship, Lee said. Once they raise \$10,000, it will allow the fund to be perpetual, meaning it will make enough money on it's own to keep the scholarship program going.

Jeff Smith, a patrol officer with the Savannah Police Department,

was awarded the scholarship in a ceremony during the tournament. He is a junior at AASU who attends full-time in addition to his duties as a police officer. He plans to go to law school after he completes his degree.

"It's an honor to be picked for any scholarship," Smith said. "It's kind of a task sometimes to pay

See GOLF, Page 2B

SSB dominates: Team routes 1/41 FA, 19 - 6

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer

Quarterback Franco Ruiz threw for two touchdowns and ran in another as the B Company, 3rd Soldier Support Battalion intramural football team beat A Battery, 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery's team 19-6 Monday night at the Sports Complex.

B Company started the game off with a drive that went nowhere, and 1/41 followed suit. But on its second possession, the 3rd got the scoring started.

Ruiz marched the team down the field to set up his five-yard touchdown run. Shavoda Gregory ran in the one point conversion to give B Co. the early lead.

But 1/41 was not going to make it easy. On the ensuing drive, quarterback Christopher Garrett drove A Batt. to the 3rd's five-yard line. He connected with Kareem Montague for a pass that made it 7-6 after Garrett dropped the ball on the one-point conversion.

B Co. answered right back. Under pressure, Ruiz connected with Bradley Oversmith on a nine-yard pass that put his team up 13-6 with time winding down in the first half.

A Batt. attempted several long throws for the end zone as the clock wound down, but steady defense from the 3rd's secondary kept the margin going into the half.

The second half was not much better for 1/41. They started with the ball in their possession and found themselves facing fourth

and 20 quickly. Garrett attempted a long pass into the end zone, but tight coverage from B Co.'s secondary again saved the day.

On the next drive, 3rd SSB found itself facing 3rd and 11. Gregory ran around the left end for a 26-yard gain that made it first and goal on the five-yard line. A quick pass to Brian Gamble made it 19-6.

A Batt. drove deep into 3rd SSB territory on the ensuing drive. On fourth and goal from the 16, Garrett ran a bootleg left but was caught at the five. 3rd SSB went four and out and gave 1/41 the ball back on the 12-yard line.

On third down and 12, Garrett threw to Calvin Brooks in the end zone for the game's final touchdown. Mondrel Pe4terson followed with the two-point conversion to make it 19-14, but the game was already out of reach.

B Co. ran a few plays to wind down the clock and take the win, 19-14.

B Co. coach James Jackson was proud of his team's play.

"I think our game plan worked out fine," he said. "The defense picked it up in the end. I hope we have the same type of fire and intensity every game."

Willie Murphy, 1/41's coach, said his team was outplayed.

"We tried to play a short game, because they were showing us a zone (defense), and we couldn't throw deep," he said. "Our quarterback threw well, but he didn't always use his head. I am proud of my team's attitude tonight, though. They didn't



Spc. Jacob Boyer

3rd SSB quarterback Franco Ruiz trots across the goal line. He ran for one touchdown and threw two others in the 19-14 win.

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer

A 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) soldier competed on the All-Army men's volleyball team that won the silver medal at the Armed Forces Championship Sept. 15 in Annapolis, Md.

Sgt. Jose A. DeJesus Cintron, a hydraulics specialist with A Co., 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, was one of 12 soldier's chosen for the men's volleyball team during the team tryouts. It was the first time the defensive specialist made the team. He went to the camp in

2000 and 2001.

"This is a goal I had when I first joined the Army," DeJesus Cintron said. "From the beginning, this is one of the things I wanted to do."

DeJesus Cintron, had to apply in order to be invited to the tryout camp, which took place from Aug. 10 to Sept. 15 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. His application had to be approved by his chain of command before it could even be considered.

"You're selected to the camp by your resume," said DeJesus Cintron, who has played volleyball competitively for 12 years. "You have to prove to them

that you're actually good. They look at how many times you've won post championships and other things like that."

Once the camp started, the process of cutting the participants down to the 12 members of the All-Army team began.

"How long you stay depends on two things," DeJesus Cintron said. "One is how good you are. It also depends on if they need your position filled."

The team played local club teams in preparation for the Armed Forces Championship, DeJesus Cintron said. Once the team was chosen, they

went on to the championship.

In the Armed Forces Championship, the teams all play each other twice. The Army team came out of round-robin play tied with the Air Force team for first with a 7-1 record. Both teams lost to each other, and they met again in the finals. Air Force pulled out a win for the gold medal, and the Army team took silver.

DeJesus Cintron plays volleyball about four times each week, he said. But even with that much practice, there were several



See Cintron, Page 2B



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Jose A. DeJesus Cintron made his first All-Army volleyball team this year.

Marne Scoreboard

	Golf	
John Rowden Memorial Golf Tournament		
Hunter Golf Club		
Select Shot Format		
Final Results		
Morning Group		
Rick Riggs, Steve Morca, Roger Crews, Rick Kretzchman	61	
Troy Alford, Rob Carroll, Greg Reed, Tom Farnsworth	62	
Frank LaCourse, Robert McManus, Arthur Dudack, Gary Howard	63	
Jameel Abbess, Dan Cook, Mike Flynn, Tony Phillips	66	
Afternoon Group		
L.C. Williams, Stan York, Bruce Jones, Henry Thompson	56	
Jeff Wyatt, Jason Seyward, Tony Gillette, Phil Estep	58	
Randy Rentz, Marty McDaniel, Thomas Whitaker, Andrew Suggs	59	
John Magnus, Mike Hargrave, Richard Vinke	62	
Chuck Gaile		
Steve Walsh, Jack Damron, Jason Fleming, Todd Saylor	62	
Overall Champion		
Williams, York, Jones, Thompson		
Closest to the Pin		
#6 Rob Carroll		
#9 Bruce Greenspan		
#13 Mike Puckat		
#17 Dave Fleming		
Ladies' Longest Drive		
Nita Rice		
Men's Longest Drive		
Thomas Whitaker		
	Football	
2002 Fort Stewart		
Intramural Flag Football		
Standings		
Through Monday		
Eastern Conference		
Team	W	L
B Btry. 1/41 FA	7	1
A Co. 11th Eng.	6	1
HSC 92nd Eng.	5	1
B Btry. 1/39 FA	4	1
HHC 4/64 AR	4	1
A Co. 10th Eng.	6	3
92nd Chem.	2	2
94th Maint.	3	4
C Btry. 1/41 FA	2	10
C Trp. 1st Cav.	1	8
C Co. 4/64 AR	0	5
A Btry. 1/3 ADA	0	4
Western Conference		
Team	W	L
HHC 3/7 Inf.	8	2
HHB DIVARTY	9	1
HHC 3d ID	7	2
A Btry. 1/9 FA	7	2
A Co. 2/7 Inf.	7	4
B Btry. 1/9 FA	4	6
B Co. 3rd SSB	4	6
Svc. Btry. 1/41 FA	4	6
B Co. 703rd MSB	3	5
A Trp. 3/7 Cav.	2	5
A Btry. 1/41 FA	1	9
C Co. 2/7 Inf.	0	8
Pacific Conference		
Team	W	L
632nd Maint.	5	1
HHC DISCOM	5	1
HHT 3/7 Cav.	4	2
B Co. 123rd Signal	4	2
MEDDAC	3	3
396th Trans.	3	3
SJA	2	3
549th MP	2	4
A Co. HQs Cmd.	1	4
15th ASOS	1	5
B Co. 10th Eng.	1	5
Scores		
Oct. 1		
Eastern Conference		
A Co. 10th Eng. 7 , C Btry. 1/41 FA 0 (forfeit)		
HHC 4/64 AR 32 , 92nd Chem. 26		
A Co. 11th Eng. 44 , B Btry. 1/39 FA 25		
Pacific Conference		
632nd Maint. 26 , HHC DISCOM 0		
103rd MI 12 , SJA 6 (forfeit)		
MEDDAC 12 , 15th ASOS 0		
396th Trans. 7 , A Co. HQs Cmd. 0 (forfeit)		
B Co. 123rd Signal 33 , B Co. 10th Eng. 6		
HHT 3/7 Cav. 13 , 549th MP 12		
Western Conference		
Svc. Btry. 1/41 FA 26 , A Btry. 1/41 FA 25		
A Btry. 1/9 FA 28 , B Btry. 1/9 FA 27		
Oct. 2		
Eastern Conference		
B Btry. 1/41 FA 33 , 92nd Chem. 20		
HSC 92nd Eng. 12 , HHC 4/64 AR 6		
B Btry. 1/39 FA 7 , C Btry. 1/41 FA 0 (forfeit)		
A Btry. 1/3 ADA 0 (forfeit), C Btry. 1/41 FA 0 (forfeit)		
HSC 92nd Eng. 26 , A Co. 10th Eng. 6		
Western Conference		
A Co. 2/7 Inf. 7 , Svc. Btry. 1/41 FA 0 (forfeit)		
HHC 3d ID 21 , B Co. 703rd MSB 18		
B Btry. 1/9 FA 7 , A Btry. 1/41 FA 0 (forfeit)		
HHB DIVARTY 26 , A Btry. 1/9 FA 20		
A Trp. 3/7 Cav. 25 , C Co. 2/7 Inf. 14		
HHC 3/7 Inf. 20 , B Co. 3rd SSB 18		
B Co. 3rd SSB 7 , A Trp. 3/7 Cav. 0 (forfeit)		
Oct. 3		
Western Conference		
HHC 3d ID 31 , B Co. 3rd SSB 26		
HHB DIVARTY 26 , B Co. 703rd MSB 18		
Pacific Conference		
103rd MI 32 , 632nd Maint. 20		
B Co. 10th Eng. 27 , 396th Trans. 8		
HHT 3/7 Cav. 25 , MEDDAC 12		
549th MP 19 , HHC DISCOM 6		
B Co. 123rd Signal 32 , 15th ASOS 6		
Monday		
Eastern Conference		
B Btry. 1/41 FA 26 , A Co. 10th Eng. 0		
Western Conference		
A Co. 2/7 Inf. 20 , HHC 3/7 Inf. 14		
B Co. 3rd SSB 19 , A Btry. 1/41 FA 14		
B Co. 3rd SSB 26 , B Co. 703rd MSB 8		
HHC 3/7 Inf. 19 , HHC 3d ID 18		
Svc. Btry. 1/41 FA 26 , HHC 3d ID 6		
HHB DIVARTY 7 , B Btry. 1/9 FA 0 (forfeit)		
A Btry. 1/9 FA 40 , C Co. 2/7 Inf. 13		
A Co. 2/7 Inf. 40, C Co. 2/7 Inf. 12		
Schedule		
Tuesday		
Eastern Conference		
Field 2		
6 p.m.	94th Maint. v. A Co. 10th Eng.	
7 p.m.	B Co. 1/39 Fa v. 92nd Chem.	
8 p.m.	A Co. 11th Eng. v. 94th Maint.	
Pacific Conference		
Field 1		
6 p.m.	549th MP v. 15th ASOS	
7 p.m.	MEDDAC v. B Co. 123rd Signal	
8 p.m.	396th Trans. v. 103rd MI	
Field 3		
6 p.m.	HHC DISCOM v. SJA	
7 p.m.	HHT 3/7 Cav. v. 632nd Maint.	
8 p.m.	B Co. 10th Eng. v. A Co. HQs Cmd.	
Wednesday		
Eastern Conference		
Field 2		
6 p.m.	C Co. 4/64 AR v. 94th Maint.	
7 p.m.	A Btry. 1/3 ADA v. HHC 4/64 AR	
8 p.m.	HSC 92nd Eng. v. 92nd Chem.	
2002 Hunter Army Airfield		
Intramural Flag Football		
Standings		
Through Monday		
Pacific Conference		
D Co. 1/3 Avn.	4	1
110th QM	4	2
HHB 260th QM	3	3
559th QM	3	3
A Co. 603rd ASB	3	4
HSC 603rd ASB	2	5
Eastern Conference		
Team	W	L
B Co. 603rd ASB	6	0
416th Trans.	4	1
K Co. 1/59 Avn.	1	6
B Co. 1/59 Avn.	0	6
Scores		
Oct. 1		
Eastern Conference		
416th Trans. 14 , K Co. 1/59 Avn. 6		
B Co. 603rd ASB 27 , K Co. 1/59 Avn. 14		
Oct. 3		
Pacific Conference		
A Co. 603rd ASB 22 , HSC 603rd ASB 16		
110th QM 23 , 559th QM 6		
Eastern Conference		
B Co. 603rd ASB 28 , K Co. 1/59 Avn. 0		
416th Trans. 7 , B Co. 1/59 Avn. 0		
Monday		
Pacific Conference		
559th QM 7 , HHB 260th QM 0 (forfeit)		
110th QM 14 , A Co. 603rd ASB 8		
HSC 603rd ASB 7 , 559th QM 0 (forfeit)		
Schedule		
Tuesday		
Eastern Conference		
Field 2		
6 p.m.	K Co. 1/59 Avn. v. B Co. 603rd ASB	
7 p.m.	B Co. 1/59 Avn. v. 416th Trans.	
Pacific Conference		
Field 2		
6 p.m.	HHB 260th QM v. 110th QM	
7 p.m.	559th QM v. HSC 603rd ASB	
8 p.m.	D Co. 1/3 Avn. v. A Co. 603rd ASB	

Got Scores? Contact the *Frontline* staff at 767-3440.

JAKE'S BODY SHOP

Relax: *Discover how to leave worries behind*

Relaxation techniques are fun, easy and beneficial. Preparing yourself to relax doesn't have to be difficult. These techniques don't require special equipment, lots of space or much time and training.

All you need are a few minutes and some simple guidelines, and you can be on your way to a life of less stress.

One thing you will need in order to relax is a quiet environment. Getting away from the noise and distractions which cause your stress is key to lessening it. This can be as simple as locking the door to your office and posting an "Out to lunch!" sign.

If you're at home, a bathroom can be a great place for escape. If outside noise is a problem, a small tape player with headphones could be a solution. Just make sure the music is soothing. Loud, jarring music can actually raise your heart rate, making relaxation impossible.

Once you've found your niche, get comfy.

If you spend most of your time on your feet, take a seat. If you sit behind a desk all day, get up and stretch your muscles. Your body likes change. When you stay in the same position for hours, your stress level starts to rise.

How to capture your calm

Concentrating on one of your senses can be incredibly relaxing. Some ideas include:

- Pick a soothing color to imagine. Soft colors such as cobalt blue work well.
- Burn a small scented candle. Some are made especially to enhance relaxation.
- A quick self-indulgent shoulder or neck massage can relax tense muscles.
- Concentrate on a favorite quote or proverb.

Trying too hard will make relaxing impossible and could raise your stress level. Remember that nothing comes easily at first and your mind is bound to wander, but don't get upset.

Golf

from page 1B

kind of a task sometimes to pay for school, and this helps a lot with the price."

The scholarship is a big aid to the criminal justice program at AASU, said Dr. Katherine Bennett, an associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, Sociology and Political Science.

"Our department's happy to have the scholarship," Bennett said. "It really helps the students."

Jean Rowden was happy to see so many people participating in a tournament held in her late husband's honor.

"It's the most wonderful thing in the world," Rowden said. "I appreciate everyone who's come and contributed to it."

Although the day centered around golf, the man in whose honor the tournament was held was not far away, Lee said.

"We're doing all of this in his honor for people in the same situation," Lee said.



**Practice Safe
Biking...**

*Always Wear
a Helmet!*

Cintron

from page 1B

benefits to going to the All-Army camp.

"You get better at the sport," he said. "You get to meet new friends and see a whole new side of the Army that you've never seen before. I learned how to defend more. I feel like I got better."

DeJesus Cintron was proud to represent the Army in the tournament, he said.

"It's one of my biggest accomplishments in volleyball," he said. "It's the highest-level competition I've ever been to. Everybody's so energized and motivated. I can't even describe it, how much effort was being made by everyone in there."

Since he made the team, DeJesus Cintron will be invited back for next year's camp, but he has to make the team all over again, he said.

"My next goal is to make the All-Armed Forces team," he said. "They compete internationally against 25 other teams, and that's where I want to go

Air Force, Army dominate interservice golf tourney

Master Sgt. Steve Miller, USA

American Forces Press Service

FORT BLISS, Texas - The Air Force won the team title by 28 strokes, and the Army won two of the three individual categories during the U.S. Armed Forces Golf Championships that ended Sept. 28 here.

Pfc. Christopher Douglas, Fort Bragg, N.C., shot a 3-under-par 69, Sept. 28 to become the overall winner and take home the title in the open division.

The Air Force team compiled a four-round total of 2,365, while the Army carded 2,393. The Navy and Marine Corps were a distant third and fourth, respectively, with totals of 2,488 and 2,587.

Many of the players were to remain at Fort Bliss to play in the international military sport, or CISM, golf tourney.

One bright spot for the sea services came from Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Rhys Evans, who nailed a hole-in-one Saturday on the par-3 seventh hole. Evans, based in Hawaii, said it was the fourth hole-in-one of his golf career.

“It was a 2-iron into the wind. It’s the same type of shot I play in the wind in Hawaii,” Evans said. “I hit it exactly like I wanted. It bounded toward the flag, I heard it hit the stick, and I saw it disappear into the cup.”

Douglas finished 8 under with a four-round total of 280, edging Air Force 2nd Lt. Ben Leestma by two strokes.

“The main goal is to keep the ball in play and give yourself a chance to make putts,” Douglas said. “It got away from me a little on the third hole because I put it in the water. But I got out of that par-3 with a bogey-4, and I was able to do better the rest of the way.”

Consistent play over the final three rounds carried the Air Force to its team title and brought the women’s division crown to 2nd Lt. Linda Jeffery, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas. Her four-round total of 300 was four strokes better than teammate Lt. Col. Gail Kramer from Los Angeles Air Force Base.

“I just tried to go out and play a good round and be consistent,” Jeffery said of a final round she started with a six-stroke lead. “I feel pretty good. It (the CISM tourney) will be my fourth tournament in a row. I had a command tournament, then the Air Force trials and this one.”

Lt. Col. Mark Johnson, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, garnered the Army’s other individual title in winning the senior division by a whopping 13 strokes. His 4-under-par 284 easily beat Air Force Tech. Sgt. Sam Paugh, who finished with a 297.

“My victory didn’t mean anything. I wanted to win the team title,” Johnson said afterward. “But the Army has six people on the U.S. team for the CISM tourney. That’s nearly half the team.”



Master Sgt. Steve Miller

Maj. Mike Armstrong watches his tee shot from the ninth tee Sept. 28 during the U.S. Armed Forces Golf Championships at Fort Bliss, Texas. Armstrong placed second in the men’s senior division.

The ups and downs of sports, October 2002

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer

This week, I bring you a veritable sports smorgasbord. Why look at one issue in one sport, I ask, when there is so much going on in so many sports? From NASCAR to golf, from pro football to baseball, there are stories aplenty to comment on, so I’m going for a marathon run through the stories of the week. Let’s take a look at what’s in and what’s gone in the first week of October.

OUT: The St. Louis Rams. Oh gosh, look what a difference a year makes. This team went from Super Bowl favorites to 0-5 laughing stock faster than you can say ‘87 Giants. 0-5? Where’s an unknown quarterback when you need him? Oh, yeah, they already went that route, and now Kurt Warner’s hurt again. Where are Dick Vermeil and Trent Green when you need them? Try Kansas City.

IN: Earnhardts taking the checkers at Talladega. Dale Jr. has won the last three races at the super speedway where his daddy won a record 10 races. Give this kid some more time, and I’ll bet he can dominate as well as Dale Sr. did anywhere.

OUT: New York teams in the league championship series. The Mets fell by the wayside some time in August (okay, it was the beginning of the month), and Bobby Valentine is back in the unemployment line. But the Yankees? They’re supposed to be there every year, aren’t they? Who would have thought they’d be out this quick, and in only four games? See last week’s column for the answer.

IN: Barry Bonds as a playoff hero. Who didn’t see this one coming? Sure, he’s stunk it up in the past, but Barry Bonds is due some postseason heat. Three home runs and a series win against the Braves have already done much to squash all the critics who have said the four-time MVP couldn’t hack it when it counts. He’s already quadrupled his career postseason home run total, and the Cardinals are next. Let’s see what he can do there.

OUT: Florida quarterbacks starting for Steve Spurrier. And it couldn’t have happened fast enough as far as this Redskins fan is concerned. Patrick Ramsey will do good things for Washington if Dan Snyder keeps him long enough for it to pay off.

Commentary

IN: Playing the U.S.

Open on a public course. You mean they’ll play another major on a course I actually have some chance of seeing in my lifetime? Choosing Torrey Pines South in La Jolla, Calif., for the sight of the 2008 U.S.

Open is a smart move by the United States Golf Association. This year’s tournament at Beth Page Black proved people like to see golfers on courses Bubba might hack on.

OUT: The Florida Gators. Okay, they took advantage of five minutes of sloppy Volunteer football to beat Tennessee, so I guess I can’t talk much. But then they went and lost to Eli Manning and Mississippi. Ole Miss? They’re not even ranked. Ron Zook must be scratching his head. Looks like the SEC East title is wide open again.

IN: Preparing for a game with Arkansas by running marathons. Finally, college football a frat boy can understand: up ‘til dawn. After Saturday’s six-overtime loss to the Vols, the Razorbacks have played in the two longest games in NCAA history. They beat Ole Miss in seven OTs last year for first place. SEC teams should start practicing on top of Mount Everest if they want to get through these all-nighters.

OUT: Contraction. Bud Selig is probably cursing the day the Minnesota Twins woke up. As if winning the AL Central title weren’t enough, now they’ve gone and upset Oakland for a spot in the ALCS against Anaheim, another team whose name has come up in relation to contraction. All this goes to show that for some teams, baseball is cyclical. As for others (re: the Milwaukee Brewers), they’ll always stink. Even with two Hall of Famers, Bud’s team was never particularly good. Leave the teams be, and let ‘em play!

IN: Making fun of Randy Moss. It’s making a resurgence this year. The former troubled football player is troubled once again. The Vikings stink, and now he’s trying to run down police officers. It appears that playing isn’t the only thing he does when he wants to.

OUT: Me. See y’all next week.



LIFE & TIMES

C SECTION

On Post

Children's activities

Army Community Service offers story time every Monday at 10 a.m. in Building 470. Preschool crafts are available every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at ACS. Every Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m. is playmate time at Youth Services. The third Thursday of each month is a field trip. For more information, call 767-5059.

Attention waiting spouses

Waiting Spouses is a support service to families on post or in the surrounding community who are living separately from their military and civilian sponsor due to mission requirements.

The Waiting Spouse briefing is held every Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at Army Community Service, Building 470, and is mandatory for those who reside on post and require additional information on installation services.

The Waiting Spouse Support Group is held right after the briefing each Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACS. Come and experience the joy of friendship in the Army community. For more information, call Doris Duchscherer at 767-5058.

MWR offers paperbacks

For all commanders and first sergeants — if your unit is being deployed, there are free, new paperback books available to take with you.

This is a free service of the MWR Library Program. For more information, call 767-2181/0805.

Teen Programs

Enroll your child in Middle School Teen Club programs by visiting Central Registration at Building 443, or call 767-2312 for more information.

MWR website

The Fort Stewart website is at www.fortstewartmwr.com. For more information on recreation and leisure activities at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, as well as Leisure Guide on the web, mark this as a favorite and check back often.

First Steps volunteers

First Steps, a free program for military families expecting their first child, is seeking volunteers.

Volunteers provide information and support to expectant and new military parents through home visits, monthly telephone calls, handing out information packets and making referrals to community resources. First Steps offers flexible hours, free daycare and mileage reimbursement.

For more information, call Laura Pifer at 756-6516.

Off Post

Touring theatre

The City of Savannah's Leisure Services Theatre is proud to announce this year's touring theatrical production of "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe." The production is designed to come to your school to provide an interactive theater experience for your students. A study guide is provided including wide-ranging pre-show and post-performance activities. Performance tours can be set up on your chosen date and time by appointment through Nov. 27.

This production is appropriate for grades K-8. Maximum group size is limited to 250 students. The cost is \$1.50 per child (minimum of \$150 fee per performance). To make a reservation or for more information, call Lawrence at 651-6782.

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-5979. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.

Parade for community, patriotism

Odum pays tribute to military, locals

Spc. Natalie Schlotman

Associate Editor

Nearly 5,000 Southerners packed on both sides of Main Street to get a glimpse of the 27th Annual Homecoming Parade in Odum, Ga. Saturday.

The 3rd Infantry Division Band, car loads of beauty queens, fire trucks, clowns, cars and baton twirling high-schoolers marched through clouds of barbecue smoke and smiling faces as part of the three-day homecoming festival.

The homecoming is a time for the Odum community to celebrate its proud heritage and supportiveness, as well as a chance for locals to catch up on old times, said event coordinator Karen Howard.

The celebrating began Wednesday at a reception when the town announced their family of the year and the grand marshals, who are individuals selected to lead the parade. Thursday the celebrating continued with the annual Gospel Sing, followed by the Odum High School Class Reunion on Friday. Although the school was closed years ago, the class reunion is a special part of the homecoming, Howard said.



Spc. Natalie Schlotman

The Wayne County High School color guard twirls down Main Street in Odum, Ga., Saturday during the 27th Annual Homecoming Parade. In addition to high schools and local business, the 3rd Infantry Division Band was invited to the parade to help illustrate the homecomings theme of "United We Stand."

"About 400 people showed up. We had reunions as far back as the Class of 1935," she said. The highlight of the Homecoming was the festival and parade on Saturday.

The 3ID band and the color guard marched in the parade to highlight the homecoming's theme: "United We Stand," Howard said. "We invited Fort

Stewart because we wanted to show that we have pride in our military, and we wanted to keep a patriotic theme," she said.

Howard added that Odum also wanted to pay tribute to soldiers' efforts in protecting the nation. "We wanted to recognize and honor our soldiers. Having them here makes the community more aware of the military," she

said. "It shows that not only are soldiers protecting us in wartime, but they are here protecting us on the home front," she said.

Marching in the parade was a chance for soldiers to show their appreciation for the community's support, said Pfc. Heather Ramos, a trumpet player in the 3ID band.

"The fact that we came

down here for the community boosts their confidence in the military. It's about getting people's support by showing up to events like this," she said.

Odum residents were appreciative for the soldiers' performance, Ramos added.

"Everyone I pass by gives me a smile," she said.

See ODUM, Page 3C

Dorchester Academy: School stands as testimony to struggle, triumph of freed slaves

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Staff Writer

The year was 1868. The Civil War had ended three years earlier; the slaves who had

worked the plantations in what is now Liberty County were free and began making a life for themselves.

While a vast majority of them had technical and vocational skills from their work on the plantations, only a

fraction had received some type of formal education.

That began to change when, in May of that year, the American Missionaries Association had representatives meet with small bands of freed slaves. They gave the people clothing, gospel and started a primary school three miles west of Midway Church.

Thus began the story of Dorchester Academy — a fragile sapling of learning that grew to become a mighty oak of education.

In November 1870, William A. Golding, a black member of the Georgia legislature wrote to the AMA to request a teacher for the school. Two months later his request was honored with the arrival of Eliza Ann Ward, a teacher from Massachusetts.

The school had an average daily attendance of 28 children.

"It wasn't always easy for the children to make it to school," said Lillie L. Gillard, site volunteer and former student at Dorchester Academy. "Some had to work the land and some just couldn't make it the 10 or 20 miles every day it took to get there."

Two years later, Reverend Floyd

Snelson, a former slave, was hired to replace the departed Ward.

Unfortunately, irregular attendance, poor facilities and lack of funding hindered the growth of the school.

In November 1875, with an increase in the number of students and staff, a board of trustees was elected and a school charter was established.

Construction of a school building was completed in March 1877 at a location off of what is now U.S. Highway 84.

By the turn of the decade, another building had been completed and enlarged to provide secondary education to older children.

The trustees named the school Dorchester Academy — for the community's ancestors who originally settled in Dorchester, Mass.

"The school prospered," said Ezekiel Walthour, site manager and caretaker. "Children were receiving a quality education at a very low cost."

Tuition and board for students in grades kindergarten through eighth

See DORCHESTER, Page 3C



Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Dorchester Academy, originally wood structures consisting of 10 buildings, closed its doors in 1940 when Liberty County established public schooling for African Americans.

Nancy Gould

DCAS Public Affairs

The four women who formed Southern Smiles had a vision beyond their well-established circle of friends and success. After discovering that victims of the Sept. 11 bombings included a friend's sister-in-law and niece, they felt compelled to take action.

They wanted their collective talents and resources used to help another recovering community.

Three weeks and \$60,000 later at Ground Zero, they served 3,000 emotionally drained volunteers Low

Country Boil southern style.

One of their recent projects includes Savannah Cares at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. In August, they sent Maj. Gen. Buford Blount, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield commanding general, a letter of introduction and a request to let them do something for soldiers — whatever that might be.

Van Robbins, Southern Smiles president and co-founder, soon met with Blount and his staff, Col. John Sterling, chief of staff, and Maj. Michael Birmingham, public affairs

officer, to collaborate on possible ways to make that happen.

"Col. Sterling told me to put them to work," said Susan Wilder, mobilization and deployment readiness specialist. "They wanted to send care packages to deployed soldiers, so we decided on the 87th Corps Support Battalion, deployed to a remote location in Africa. At that time, their location was confidential so I gave an alternative address where the packages could be mailed and retrieved. The colonel there sent a sweet letter thanking the ladies and said those unexpected pack-

ages had overwhelmed the soldiers, all 252 of them. They were packed full of candy, gum, crossword puzzles, and the female soldiers got feminine products."

Lynda Long, Wilder's primary contact with Savannah Cares, and the group's secretary/treasurer, called a week after mailing the boxes and said, "What's next?"

"I've never seen any group more anxious to support our soldiers," said Wilder. "They seem to have no limitations and an ability to raise funds and make things happen overnight."

The well-networked backing for Southern Smiles

comes from several Savannah sponsors, including Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, the corporate sponsor, which has committed support to Operation Desert Spring's Kuwait deployment throughout the fall and into next year.

"You hear civilians talk about patriotism and support for the military, but we never saw a program that linked the two entities," said Long, who also works full time as vice president of Physician Practice Management at Saint Joseph/Candler in

See SMILES, Page 2C



Soldier Show on the way

2002 U.S. Army Soldier Show's song and dance swings into Stewart

Special to The Frontline

The 2002 U.S. Army Soldier Show is on the road entertaining soldiers and families around the world with a one-and-a-half-hour singing and dancing extravaganza.

"Freedom" is the show's theme and the name of its opening number this year, said artistic director Victor Hurtado. "The way we have conceived the show is not your typical idea of freedom," said Hurtado, who penned the show's original opening number with California composer Carlos Guillen.

"Our concept of freedom is where we're all responsible for each other's well being and freedom, that freedom is nothing without a safe place to land, and that we as Americans fight - to strive to be that safe place and set the example for the rest of the world," he explained.

In addition to gospel, country, and R&B numbers, the show features acoustic segments with guitar and violin for the first time in 12 years, when the show actually traveled with a band, said Hurtado.

"[Those sections are] very pared down, very unplugged," he said. Hurtado explained that the taped music for the show is orchestrated in a studio especially for the Soldier Show.

During the evening, audiences will hear chart-toppers by artists like Destiny's Child, Brooks and Dunn, Whitney Houston, Faith Hill, Mary J. Blige, N'Sync, Alanis Morissette, Pink, Alicia Keys, Jennifer Lopez and others.

This year's show took shape when soldiers, with their commands' full support, were chosen from live auditions in late March. Those selected had just six weeks to learn more than 30 songs, choreography, and how to set and take down more than 18 tons of stage truss, audio equipment and lights. The Soldier Show entertainers and technicians are also their own road crew. "Before those six weeks, the only thing we had was a concept and a set design. Nothing else," said Hurtado. "A

Broadway theater would be hard pressed to rehearse a show that's already written, like *Annie Get Your Gun* or *A Chorus Line* and have it ready in six weeks. We have to write it, we have amateur talent, we have to costume it, we have to build the sets, we have to do all the tech, everything has to be done in those six weeks. Nothing is written before."

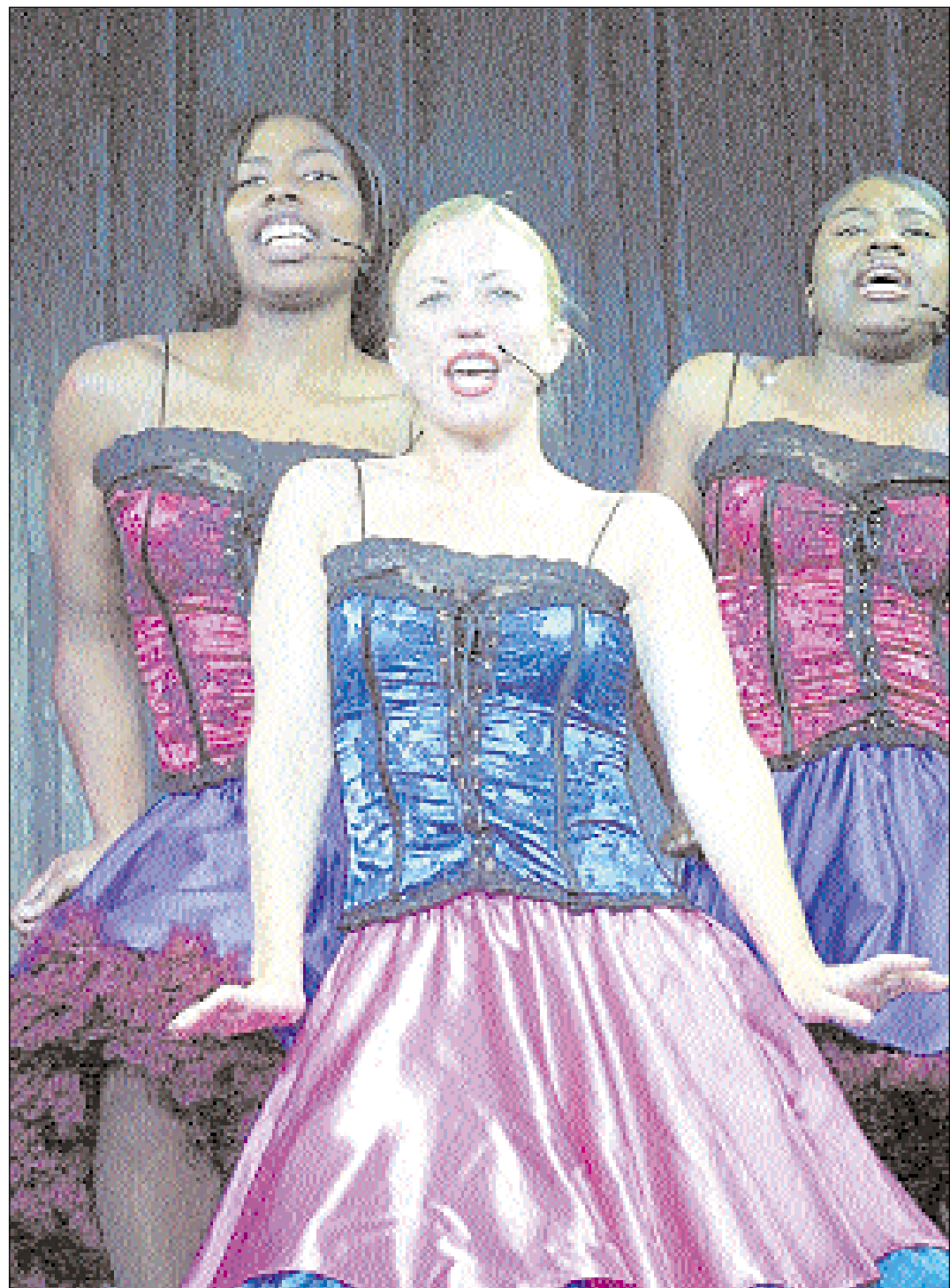
That means long, exhausting days for the entertainers and technicians. The soldiers work and rehearse through 14-hour days beginning with military physical training and including aerobic workouts, vocal coaching and dance training. Much of what they learn also relates to their military life.

"I didn't expect it to be so much work," said Randy Batarao, of Fort Meade, Md. "I've learned a lot of leadership skills, good skills for being an NCO. When I go back to my unit, I'll be a lot more aware, a lot more aggressive with sticking to something, following through. It teaches you how to have self-confidence - to get in front of hundreds of people every night isn't something for everyone. I don't have any problem [with that] now."

Cast members vary in rank from private first class to lieutenant colonel and include an infantryman, a dietitian, a network operator, a paralegal, an artillery crewman and a linguist-interpreter, among others. While in the show, they are assigned additional duties according to their rank, such as vocal director, dance captain, wardrobe/costume manager, technical crew chief and stage manager.

The show started at Fort Belvoir, Va. in mid May, and is on tour for six months, performing 98 shows at 54 locations in 20 states, Germany and Italy. The itinerary includes shows planned for troops in the Balkans and the Middle East. Commercial sponsors First Command Financial Planning and the Army National Guard help offset program expenses. This is the sixth year First Command, formerly known as USPA & IRA, is the lead sponsor; the Army National Guard is on board for its second year.

The Soldier Show, produced by CFSC's Army Entertainment Division, is one of more than 200 Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs the Army offers soldiers and families through CFSC under the philosophy that soldiers and families are entitled to the same quality of life as those they are pledged to attend.



Douglas Ide, CFSC Public Affairs

1st Lt. Jennifer Sherwood (front), Sgt. Timora Green (left) and Spc. Robin Smith are can-can girls singing Lady Marmelade in the Moulin Rouge segment of the 2002 U.S. Army Soldier Show.



Harriet Rice, CFSC Public Affairs

Capturing the elegance of Sparkling Diamonds in the soldier show are, from left: Sgt. Rodney Watts, Staff Sgt. Greg McPhee, Pfc. Jonathan Smith, 1st Lt. Angel Stone, Spc. Randy Batarao, Sgt. Mark Catarroja and Sgt. Albert Latuch.



Douglas Ide

Staff Sgt. Greg McPhee sings Whitney Houston's "I'll Always Love You."

The 2002 U.S Army Soldier Show will be at Fort Stewart's Newman Physical Fitness Center Nov. 22 and Nov. 23 7 p.m. There is no cover charge.

Smiles

from page 1C

show soldiers that we appreciate the job they do in the war on terrorism. We also want to show them we care about them and their families. We want to support them with our time, money, talent, and prayers."

Savannah Cares' second mission was to make big "goodie bags" to give soldiers at the Departure and Arrival Control Group as they boarded for the long 20 to 24-hour flight to Kuwait.

The women spent \$6,500 at Sam's Club, Wal-Mart and area Dollar Stores on a tremendous assortment and quantity of snack foods, magazines, candies, portable games and more — enough to fill 292 grocery bags. They asked community groups, including students at Benedictine Military School and the Savannah Girl Scouts, to fill the plastic bags. Every soldier deployed to Kuwait will receive one about half filled with goodies, and

according to Wilder that's a lot of goodies. Wilder said she heard numerous comments from the younger soldiers at the DAG as they boarded the planes.

They were thrilled and amazed that the women gave them so much "cool" stuff.

Before each group deploys from the DAG they have an opportunity to fill out an Adopt a Soldier card.

Their personal information is entered into a database, and later matched with clubs, businesses and churches that expressed interest in adopting soldiers.

Some businesses will adopt units with similar professions; for example, Long said she will ask her peers in the medical profession to sponsor medical units.

Some companies, like Gulfstream, may adopt a kabal (anywhere between 800 and 1,000 soldiers); other civic organizations may

want to adopt a smaller group, or a specific number of soldiers.

The goal of Southern Smiles is to ensure that all soldiers who sign up for adoption are matched with a sponsor and get support during their deployment with packages and cards.

Long said Savannah Cares also gives soldiers' families their time, financial and emotional support in whatever ways the military deems appropriate.

The group has agreed to financially back Family Readiness Group projects, and on October 19, Savannah Cares and other civilian volunteers will sponsor a morale booster — the 2nd Brigade Combat Team Walk to Kuwait. Family members in the 2nd Brigade will walk 14,100 miles to Kuwait and back on Fort Stewart's quick track, representing the total distance traveled by each deployed

spouse.

Savannah Cares will set up a booth at the event, distribute buttons to walkers, and prior to the walk, promote it to individuals and community groups in Savannah, requesting monetary pledges for each mile walked. Upcoming activities for military families, such as holiday parties, are in the planning stage.

"The goal of Operation: Savannah Cares is to encourage a spirit of community and patriotism in Savannah" said Long. "But most of all, we want to show our soldiers at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield that we care."

Editor's Note: If you wish to contact Southern Smiles about donation opportunities or to volunteer for one of its programs, including "Adopt a Soldier," email them at www.southernsmiles.org.

From Station Number Five to Odum

Spc. Natalie Schlotman
Staff Writer

The General Store on Main Street stands proud and sturdy across from a strip of railroad tracks. The building is firmly planted, and it has character and a welcoming friendliness — just like the town’s residents.

The town of Odum, Ga., plants it’s roots about 10 miles past Jesup. Home of the proud General Store and 417 people, Odum is a small, close-knit community with no shortage of southern hospitality, said Mayor Aubrey Mansfield.

The town began as a small loading station along a railroad, Mansfield explained. “Every 10 miles, there was a stop along the railroad for picking up freight. The train would pull into Odum to reload,” he said.

In 1907, the freight station developed into a town, and Station Number Five became Odum. The town was named after Godfrey Odum, Mansfield said. “He was sort of like the town’s godfather at the time,” he said.

Odum grew into a close-knit community, centered on Main Street, which was a row of brick buildings that housed hardware and clothing stores, as well as a barbershop and a general store.

However, modern-day needs forced Odum to loose some of its founding charm, Mansfield said, when a four-lane highway was added right down the town’s center.

“The original town was tore down, except for one building — the General Merchandise Store on Main Street,” he said.

Now Odum residents use the old general store building as a Town House to host everything from community events

to birthday parties, Mansfield said. The Town House displays Odum’s military proud heritage as well, Mansfield said. “Photos of all the Odum residents who served in our military hang on the walls.”

Although modern demands stripped the town down to one original building, Odum was able to hold on to some of its old fashioned roots when reconstructing Main Street.

“The bricks, steel and wood that built the original Odum still have a place in the community,” Mansfield said. “We reused the old brick and tin in all the new buildings.” Additionally, the town is working to restore one of its founding structures with the help of a part-federal, part-state funded T- Grant, according to Mansfield.

“We’re bringing back the Old Odum Depot,” he said. The depot was where people would buy tickets to ride the train, and it housed the freight dock room where goods were stored and loaded onto the trains. “We’re moving in as many whole sections of the building as we can. What we can’t keep together we’re going to add and restore using the original lumber. We want to put as much of the history of Odum and its railroad into it as we can,” Mansfield said, adding that the project is schedule to be completed next year.

The town’s residents are friendly, supportive and always willing to lend a hand, Mansfield said. “We’re a loving community made up of mostly retired elderly,” he said. “Everyone pitches in with town events. If you have a hard-ship, everyone helps.”

Odum is a hometown with heart, where everybody knows everybody, said Larry Holloway, a lifetime resident and

retired sergeant first class. “No matter where you’re from, you’ll get along with everyone here — they’re loving and caring people,” he said.

Residents are not the only ones who benefit from Odum’s supportive environment, Holloway added. “If a stranger comes through, we’ll make ‘em feel welcome. Someone’s going to help you out if you have a problem. If your car breaks down, we’ll get you on the road again,” said Holloway, who was stationed at Fort Stewart in 1976.

People from other communities agree that Odum is a welcoming place whose residents make visitors feel at home, said Jackie King, a Jesup, Ga., resident. “I like this place because it’s a small town and I’m from a small town.”

Along with strong feelings towards heritage and friendship, Odum residents stress the importance of faith, Holloway added.

“The town’s people take pride in their variety of churches,” Mansfield said. “We are blessed with some of the finest.”

Odum is an agricultural community, known for its corn, cotton and soy crop. But, the town’s claim to fame, according to Mansfield, is not growing food, but developing strong minds.

“In the last few years the one thing that has brought Odum to attention to other communities is our elementary school. It’s one of the highest rated schools in Georgia. In fact, our elementary school has been recognized by Georgia as one of the top 50 schools in the state,” Mansfield said, adding that the school attracts residents from other towns into the community. “People from surrounding towns bring in their kids specially to attend school here. It has been a big plus for us over the years.”

Odum celebrates its heritage and sense of community-closeness with a special yearly event, Mansfield said. More than 3,000 people gather around the Town Hall and Main Street for the Annual Homecoming Parade and Festival.

The homecoming is a time for Odum residents — current or past, young and old —to return to their town to socialize, catch up on old times. “Everyone has a unique opinion of the homecoming. They look forward to it,” Mansfield said.

Odum residents plan on keeping their town alive with heritage, faith and love, said Mansfield. And, despite the changes modern times may impose on the town, Odum has hopes for sticking on the map for years to come.

“I hope Odum lives forever,” Mansfield said.

Odum

from page 1C

After the parade, the celebrating continued with a festival. Odum residents — former and current — gathered and set up booths around the Town Hall. People sold crafts, T-shirts and baked treats. Food was not in short supply either, as deep-fried, barbecued and broiled creations were everywhere.

All the money raised at the homecoming is given back to the community, Howard said. “We’re adding lights to the gazebo and we’ve put new appliances in the recreation center,” she said.

The homecoming is highly anticipated each year, and it is the town’s largest yearly gathering, said Larry Holloway, a lifetime Odum resident. “Seeing everyone brings back memories. I look forward to the homecomings each year. I enjoy them,” he said.

Many attend to see their loved ones participate in the event, as well. “I’ve come for the last several years,” said Jackie King, a Jesup resident. “I love the parade. I enjoy seeing the kids reap the benefits of all their hard work and practice.”



Spc. Natalie Schlotman

Odum residents and visitors crowd the street as the 3rd Infantry Band marches by during the parade.

Dorchester

from page 1C

was seventy cents, payable in coin or provisions. The only requirement for boarders was that they work for one hour at the school.

Dorchester Academy had more than 360 students, a 30-acre campus, and 10 buildings by the end of the century.

In 1901, a fire destroyed five buildings — the teacher’s home, girl’s hall, dining room, kitchen and laundry room.

The disheartening incident did not crush the spirits of students, staff or community because, two years later, 450 students joined in the celebration of Dorchester Academy’s 13th anniversary celebration.

The academy continued to grow until 1940, when Liberty County established a

public school for African Americans.

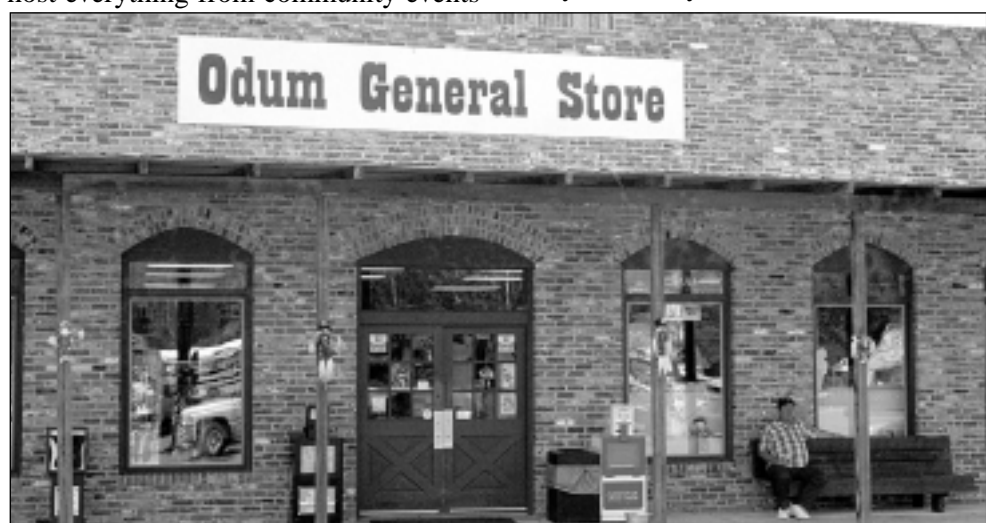
“I had just graduated from eighth grade at Dorchester when it closed,” Gillard said. “(Dorchester Academy) closed its doors when the county opened their school.”

After the closing, AMA turned the school over to the community.

The Dorchester Academy is now a work in progress.

Because of Walthour and several other volunteers, the process of preserving the heritage, history and memory of the hundreds of people who attended Dorchester Academy will be carried on.

All that stands now are remnants of what once was a thriving center for education in the community – the roots of the mighty oak.



Spc. Natalie Schlotman

The Odum General Store was rebuilt with original brick and tin from the Odum’s historical buildings that were tore down in 1995.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Keep running, struggling to reach God's vision of you

Chaplain (Maj.) Mitchell Lewis
DIVARTY Chaplain

Chances are, you are not yet the person you envision yourself to be. In your best moments, you picture yourself differently. You know that your life was meant to be more – physically, emotionally, mentally, or ethically.

I'm convinced that many of the troubles we create for ourselves would never happen if we all became the people we pictured ourselves to be.

I very rarely talk to anyone in a jam who says, "It seemed like a good idea at the time." Most folks say, "I knew better."

Still, most of us put off intentional personal growth until some tomorrow that never comes. True, some people have goals in life – get promoted at work, run a marathon, win a fishing tournament or something of that nature. Few people; however, have serious goals that touch their character or their most important relationships.

The founders of my religious movement within the Christian church used to talk about "going on to perfection."

In fact, when I was ordained, the bishop still asked me a 200-year-old question, "Do

you expect to be made perfect in this life?"

Every time I remember that question, I remember how far I am from "perfect" right now. I'm not yet the person I envision myself to be. More importantly, I'm not yet the person God envisions me to be.

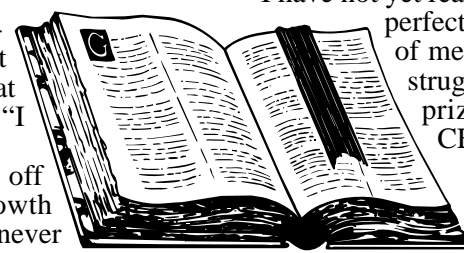
It is true that God loves me and accepts me just as I am. As the song says, it's "Amazing Grace." But it is also true that God envisions something more for me.

Paul, the Christian apostle, put it this way: "I have not yet reached my goal, and I am not perfect. But Christ has taken hold of me. So I keep on running and struggling to take hold of the prize." (Philippians 3:12, CEV).

Christians, at least, don't just begin their spiritual lives by grace; they also finish them by grace.

I think that I'm going to continue to challenge people at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield to become just a little more like the people they see themselves to be, and the people that God sees them to be.

If we all did that, the "police reports" section of this paper would be shorter. The families living in our homes would be happier. And we could all look ourselves in the mirror a little more honestly.



Pet of the Week

Patch is a 5-month-old black and white kitten with tons of personality and energy. He would make a lively addition to any home.

If interested in adopting Patch or any other cat or dog, call 767-4194 or stop by the clinic located at 461 W. Bultman Ave., Building 1180, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314.



GOT PET?

Check out the Fort Stewart Vet Clinic. All stray pets found on post are taken to the facility. For more information, call 767-4194.

Find your loved one.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Fort Stewart McGruff
Safe House Program



Worship Opportunities

Fort Stewart

<u>Catholic</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Daily Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.
Saturday Mass	Victory	5 p.m.
Sunday Mass	Victory	9 a.m.
Sunday Mass	Victory	7 p.m.
Wednesday Mass	WACH	11:45 a.m.
<u>Protestant</u>		
Sunday Service	Heritage	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Liturgical	Heritage	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Matters	Vale	11 a.m.
Sunday Contemporary	Marne	6 p.m.
<u>American Samoan</u>		
Sunday Service	Heritage	1 p.m.
<u>Muslim</u>		
Friday Jum'ah	Bldg. 9182	1:15 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Bldg. 9182	5:30 a.m.
<u>Seventh Day Adventist</u>		
Saturday Sabbath School	Vale	9:15 a.m.
Saturday Divine Worship	Vale	11 a.m.
<u>Healing Service</u>		
Tuesday Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.
<u>Lutheran</u>		
Sunday Worship	Heritage	11 a.m.
<u>Contemporary Service</u>		
Sunday	Marne	6 p.m.

Hunter Army Airfield

<u>Catholic</u>		
Sunday Mass	Post Chapel	9:30 a.m.
<u>Protestant</u>		
Sunday Service	Post Chapel	11 a.m.

All inquiries or requests for information should be directed to:
Attn: Pamela Gaskin, Army Community Service
76 Lindquist Avenue, BLDG 470, Fort Stewart, GA 31314-5512
Phone: (912) 767-5058/5059 • Fax: (912) 767-5502
Sponsored by DCAS Army Community Service – Family Advocacy Program

Volunteer Spotlight



Nancy Edwards



Nancy Edwards heard Tuttle Army Health Clinic’s call for volunteer help and answered it.

“Volunteering gives me the opportunity to help where there is a need, plus this gives me great experience while I’m in nursing school,” said Edwards.

Edwards’ first career was as a first grade teacher.

She is now working toward a new career in nursing. She volunteers in Tuttle’s primary care clinic several hours

each week.

If you’d like more information about becoming an American Red Cross volunteer at Tuttle Army Health Clinic, call Theresa Johnson at 692-8724.



WOODRUFF THEATER

Oct. 10-Oct. 17

Admission for all shows is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.



Signs (PG-13)

Starring: Mel Gibson, Rory Culkin

Thursday at 7 p.m.

In Bucks County, Pa., a 500-foot crop circle is found on the farm of Graham Hess, the town’s reverend. The circles cause a media frenzy and test Hess’ faith as he journeys to find out the truth behind the crop circles.

Men in Black 2 (PG-13)

Starring: Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith

Friday, Saturday, Wednesday, at 7 p.m.

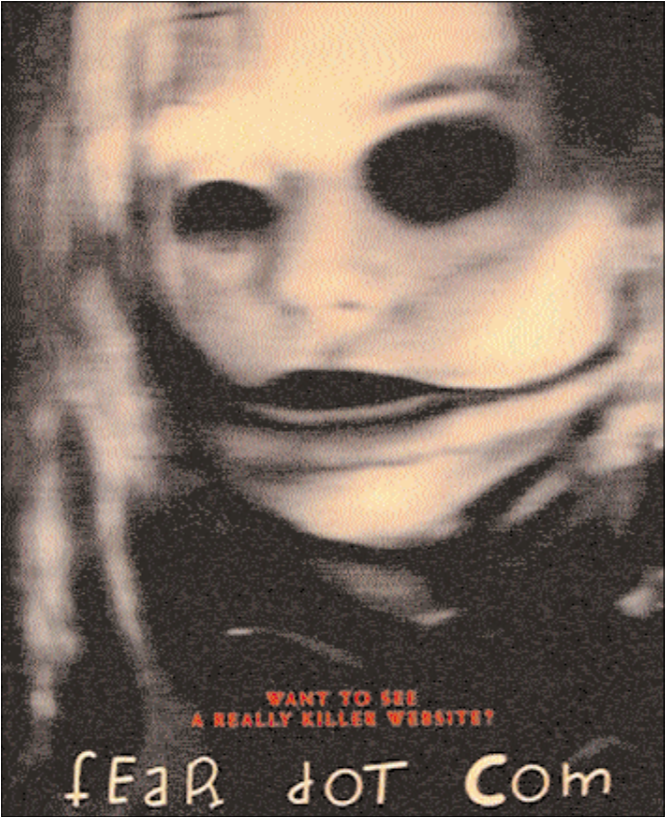
Kay and Jay reunite to provide our best, last and only line of defense against a sinister seductress who levels the toughest challenge yet to the MIBs untarnished mission statement: protecting the earth from the scum of the universe.

Fear Dot Com (R)

Starring: Stephen Dorff, Natascha McElhone

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at 7 p.m.

If you click “yes” — and you know you want to — you’ll be logged on to the internet site fearedot.com, and the game begins. What follows is a miasma of hellish images that leave unsuspecting voyeurs suffering from morbid hallucinations and unspeakable terror.



Birth announcements

August 24
Kayli Grace Owen, a girl, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Pvt. 2 Samuel David Owen and Rebecca Owen.

September 13
Brandon Michael Allen Bliss, a boy, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Capt. Michael Allen Bliss and Cheria Bliss.
Morgan Alexandria Warner, a girl, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Pfc. Jonathan W. Warner and Tania Warner.

September 17
James Rondell Bellamy Jr., a boy, 8 pound, 4 ounces, born to Pfc. James Rondell Bellamy, Sr., and Lachandra M. Bellamy.

September 23
Andrew David Sanders, a boy, 8 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Ronald D. Sanders and Rebekah L. Sanders.
Connor Julian Kinnear, a boy, 9 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Capt. Chad Kinnear and Jacquelyn Kinnear.

September 24
Jacob James Zustra, a boy, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Sgt. Joseph Gates Zustra Jr., and Amanda Lynn Zustra.
Jaden Robert Matthews, a boy, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Sgt. Jason Matthews and Adriane Matthews.
David Winston Conolly III, a boy, 4 pounds, 11

ounces, born to Staff Sgt. David Winston Conolly II, and Marian Deny Conolly.
Jesus Godoy, a boy, 8 pounds, born to Spc. Mayra P. Godoy and Arturo Godoy.

September 25
Tori Elizabeth Olsen, a girl, 6 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Michael L. Olsen and Amanda K. Olsen.
Caleb Jerome Watts, a boy, 7 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Sgt. Timothy Watts and Shateria Watts.

September 26
Brenna Elizabeth Cahill, a girl, 5 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Capt. Joel Eric Cahill and Mary Ellen Cahill.
Ethan Ambrose Nawrocki, a boy, 6 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Spc. Aaron Nawrocki and Katie Nawrocki.
Alessandra Isabella Morris, a girl, 5 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Ferdinand Obispado Morris and Barbara Cesen Morris.
Caylee Rebecca Ratliff, a girl, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Curtis Ratliff and Angela Ratliff.

September 27
Sydney Rose-Shirley Swinney, girl, 4 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Sgt. James P. Swinney and Christal B. Swinney.
Mia Joy Coles, a girl, 6 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Spc. Candice D. Coles.

Bryce Richard Poplin, a boy, 8 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Sgt. Robert Poplin and Laurie Poplin.
Alissa Nycole Merritt, a girl, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Spc. Markeith Merritt and Rachelle Merritt.
Za’us DeMone Moss, a boy, 8 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Spc. Grady D. Moss and LaShaunda Steele-Moss.

September 28
Eva Nicole Aquino, a girl, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Spc. Fernando Arturo Aquino and Mary Elizabeth Aquino.
Lindsey Marie Hamrick, a girl, 6 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Anthony L. Hamrick and Pfc. Sandra K. Hamrick.

September 29
Phillip Eugene Pace, Jr., a boy, 6 pounds, 13 ounces, born to Spc. Phillip Pace and Anitra Pace.
Anya Mikala McKoy, a girl, 8 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Spc. Charles McKoy and Spc. Shonda McKoy.

September 30
Kali Alexis King, a girl, 5 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Pfc. Justin Robert King and Shauna Jean King.
John Mark Penick, II, a boy, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. John Mark Penick and Leemun Penick.

October 1
Fabian Mauro Garza, a boy, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Spc. Mauro Andres Garza and Gabriela Corranco Garza.